

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1412777-000

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SAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

September 5, 1939

EAT:HA

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

While talking with Captain Nixon on September 5 he advised the Navy Department has perfected arrangements for the placing in effect as soon as the President approves it of a complete censorship of all radio and cable communications. The Navy Department will utilize the services of about 1500 people in this project with three main censorship establishments located in San Francisco, New York and San Antonio. The majority of the 1500 personnel have been selected from Reserve Officers who have been called to duty. The Navy Department secured authorization from the President to expend \$10,000,000 on this project immediately.


E. A. Tamm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-16-83 BY [redacted]

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b7C

C.N. 223275-001

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RECORDED & INDEXED

62-62736-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 7 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILES

100/100

General Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Chicago, Illinois
September 8, 1939

098233

20
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

37
17
15

ANTONIA D 43
M-1100

Dear Sir

I desire to advise that former Special Agent
O. C. Dewey has advised the writer that the
Naval Intelligence has sent out a request to
its reserve officers for volunteers to assist
as censors.

I thought the Bureau might be interested in
knowing of this activity on the part of the
Naval Intelligence.

Very truly yours

D. M. Ladd
D. M. LADD
Special Agent in Charge

DML:IAJ

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/16/83 BY [redacted]
C/N: 223275

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-62736-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 11 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM
WG

b6
b7C

HHG:JB

November 22, 1940

775 G

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Commander H. K. Penn, Navy Department, called personally. He is charged by the Office of Naval Intelligence to prepare a draft for censorship control, dealing particularly with censorship other than postal matters.

He informed me that the Joint Board of Control had submitted a recommendation to the President, urging the establishment of an Administration of Public Information. This administration would be divided (1) into an information service and (2) into a censorship service. The matter is on the President's desk and no action has been taken.

Commander Penn left the attached memorandum which relates to certain names which had been informally furnished by Mr. Tamm previously.

Commander Penn also stated that he was preparing a letter for Admiral Anderson to sign addressed to the Director in which inquiry would be made as to the desirability of one small room being set aside in case censorship is established, and that room would be adjacent to the Bureau's space with a 24-hour shift to receive and send information of interest to the Bureau and information gathered by the Bureau of interest to the censorship control. I told him I saw no objection to his including such a recommendation in the event censorship is established; that there would naturally have to be some close relationship between the FBI and the censorship control, the details of which, however, would have to be worked out.

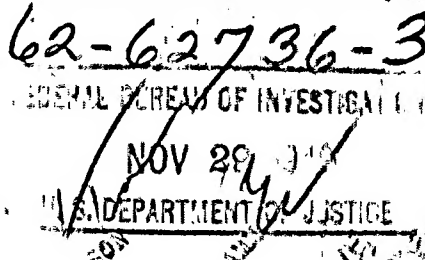
Commander Penn later called to inquire if he could receive all references to business concerns which were being furnished by British censorship control. I informed him this was a tremendous task and suggested he defer this request until the problem might become more imminently important as this would require a considerable amount of time and as anything affecting the Naval establishments is recently being furnished as rapidly as received.

Respectfully,

RECORDED & INDEXED

H. H. Clegg

Enclosure
W. E. A. Tamm



PEF:CSH

March 17, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am informed that Army and Navy representatives have prepared a proposed plan with regard to censorship in the United States, and that this plan was referred to the President some months ago. I am not informed as to what, if any, action has been taken with regard to the plan since its referral to the President.

I am not informed as to the details of the plan in question. However, information has been furnished to a representative of this Bureau, by the management of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company, 67 Broad Street, New York City, to the effect that four floors of that building are at present being reserved for a Navy censorship and, further, that the necessary communication lines have been run to the building. The setup is said to be such that censorship can be started upon an hour's notice. I am also informed that the Navy has taken a program of training of certain of its reserve officers for connection with censorship activities. It will be recalled I have discussed this matter with you previously, in connection with the desirability and inevitability of communications control instituted in this country.

I wanted to call this situation to your attention, because it is my belief that if there is to be any kind of communications control setup in this country with regard to censorship, representatives of the FBI should be stationed at those points where censoral offices are located in order that civilian intelligence matters will be promptly and properly routed to the civilian intelligence organizations. If this is left entirely to the Army and Navy, I do not think it would be satisfactory from the standpoint of civilian intelligence interest in espionage and sabotage matters, for which the civilian authorities are primarily responsible.

Respectfully,

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover
Director

62-62736-5
FEB 18 1941
3:10 pm
2

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AMT:ESK

July 2, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. FOXWORTH

Major Corderman of MID informed me yesterday that he is to be given the responsibility of perfecting the War Department's plans for war time censorship.

He stated that he understood that an independent Government agency would be created to handle all censorship matters. The personnel of this agency would be made up of civilians, officer representatives from the War and Navy Departments and representatives from other interested Government agencies engaged in national defense work.

Major Corderman does not know as yet how many officers will be assigned to assist him in organizing the War Department's part in the censorship program.

Respectfully,

A. M. Thurston

RECORDED

62-65716-6
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 JUL 11 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FOXWORTH

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

CH-6

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EPC:AF

August 4, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: Major ^{*}Corderman
Army Censorship

1/4
✓
Mr. Thurston's memorandum of July 21, 1941, indicates Major Corderman stated he had contacted me with a view to obtaining Bureau assistance in training his new censorship personnel.

On the date indicated, Major Corderman and Major ^{*}Clark, who will be his successor in G2, paid a social visit to my office. Corderman's new job in the censorship was mentioned in the general conversation. No discussion was had on the training of personnel. Corderman stated he would be back to see me some time later.

Respectfully,

E. P. Coffey
E. P. Coffey.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Your Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-62736-7

11-13
17



EAT:WK

Time 3:15 PM

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 7, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. C. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

00
cd
Mr. L. M. C. Smith called me with reference to your request of him to let you know if he learned of anything about censorship. He stated that the Army and Navy have a bill drafted and which they are going to submit which places the censorship on them. I inquired as to whether he would send a draft of this bill to the Bureau and he stated that this would be done. He further stated that he would appreciate some ideas as to what we thought could be done about this bill.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

RECORDED

62-62736-8

CH-17

AUG 11 1941

EX-107H

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
August 15, 1941

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Drayton	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

EAT:TEB

Time 2:03 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: CENSORSHIP

L. M. C. Smith called in regard to the above matter advising that he has had a study made of the law relative to censorship and that at this time it would be possible by proclamation to censor radios and cables if there is a necessity for it.

In answer to my inquiry as to whether or not he thought this would be advisable he stated he is under the impression that there is one outgoing cable which is quite a source of information and which is not being covered by [redacted] but that of course a survey would have to be made to determine whether a censorship would be justified. He stated he merely wanted to pass this on for the Bureau's information and would take no action unless he hears from the Bureau.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

RECORDED

62-62736-9
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
7 AUG 21 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
L. TAMM
H. J.

CH-26

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
August 19, 1941

EAT:DMP
Time 9:30 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Your Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

I called L. M. C. Smith of the Neutrality Laws Unit in the Department regarding his inquiry the other day with reference to our views on an executive order on censorship, telling him that I had talked with you about it and that you have no view one way or the other at the present time, that anything the Department thought appropriate would be satisfactory with you.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm
Edward A. Tamm

RECORDED

62-62736-10
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 AUG 27 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FOXWORTH

CH-11 1/10

Censorship of Radio & Cable Communications

Best Copy Available

b6
b7C

PEF:AA

RECORDED

August 13, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, SPECIAL DEFENSE UNIT
MR. LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH

I am returning herewith the memorandum on censorship and the draft of the proposed bill, transmitted with your memorandum of August 7, 1941.

From a review of the memorandum and the proposed bill, it does not appear that there is anything contained therein which would affect this Bureau. It is noted that a Censorship Advisory Committee is recommended, and it is presumed that this Bureau would have representation on such a committee.

I appreciate your courtesy in making this material available to me.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Grayson _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 16 1941

[Handwritten signature]

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 7, 1941

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

In accordance with your conversation of some time ago, I am enclosing herewith a memorandum on censorship and a draft of a proposed bill which may come to the Department soon. Since I secured this confidentially, I will appreciate your giving it the same treatment so as to protect my source.

I have some difficulties with it and will be glad to discuss what we should do about it with you.

Lawrence M. C. Smith
Lawrence M. C. Smith
Chief, Special Defense Unit

RECORDED

62-1414-11
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 AUG 27 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED

A B I L L

To establish national censorship of international communications, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That during a state of war, or the national emergency declared by the President on May 27, 1941, to exist, with the object of preventing the transmission of information detrimental to the national interest, the President is hereby authorized to establish and maintain, under such rules and regulations as he may from time to time prescribe, a censorship of communications by mail, cable, radio, telephone, telegraph, teletype, visual means, sound, homing pigeons, or any other means whatever, between the United States, its territories and possessions, and any foreign country; between the United States and its territories or possessions; between the United States, its territories and possessions, and any vessel, regardless of the location of such vessel; and between territories or possessions and other territories or possessions; Provided, That any radio broadcast or any other communication the receipt of which cannot be confined to specified domestic addresses shall be subject to such censorship.

SEC. 2. The President is further authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, an official to be known as the Director of Censorship, whose duties he shall prescribe, and whose salary he shall fix at a rate not in excess of \$10,000 per annum. The President is also authorized to detail from the Army and Navy, respectively, a "Chief Postal and Wire Censor", and a "Chief Radio and Cable Censor", who shall perform duties as Executive Assistants to the Director of Censorship in connection with the censorship provided for herein.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Treasury are authorized, on request of the Director of Censorship, to detail from the Army, Navy and Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, respectively, such officers and enlisted men as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Act: Provided, That any officer or enlisted man on the active or retired list of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or any reserve component thereof, who may be assigned or detailed to any office or position to carry out the provisions of this Act, shall serve in and perform the functions of such office or position without loss of or prejudice to his status as such officer or enlisted man in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or reserve component thereof: Provided further, That personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, detailed in accordance with this section, and the employees authorized by section 4(a) of this Act, may be ordered by the Director of Censorship to perform travel, by any means of

transportation, in connection with their official duties relating to censorship, and shall receive the transportation and subsistence allowance specified by the Standardized Travel Regulations, as now or hereafter amended, for civilian employees of the Government, and no other.

Sec. 4. The Director of Censorship is authorized:

(a) To employ the necessary civilian personnel with or without regard to Civil Service laws and the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, assign the same such duties as he may deem appropriate, and provide such office space, services, facilities, supplies and equipment, including motor-propelled vehicles and maintenance and exchange thereof, as may be required for the organization, training and maintenance of the Censorship establishment, without regard to Section 3709 of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

(b) To purchase such printing, binding and blank book work form public, commercial, or private printing establishments or binderies upon orders placed by the Public Printer who is hereby authorized to exercise, for the purpose of this Act, the discretion vested in the Joint Committee on Printing by Section 12 of the Act approved January 12, 1895, as amended by the Act approved July 8, 1935 (49 Stat. 475).

(c) To require the registration and licensing of all persons, agencies, and organizations other than agencies of the United States Government, owning, possessing, maintaining, or transporting homing pigeons, and to requisition all homing pigeons so owned, possessed, or maintained, upon the payment of fair and just compensation in the manner provided for by the Act of October 10, 1940, (Public Numbered 829, Seventy-Sixth Congress, Third Session).

(d) To require the registration and licensing of those agencies to be permitted to transmit to foreign countries newspapers, periodicals, books, and other printed matter or other authorized material, free of censorship.

SEC. 5 The Fiscal Service of the Treasury Department, is hereby designated, empowered and directed to perform the fiscal, disbursing and accounting functions of the Director of Censorship in carrying out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 6. The Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission is hereby directed to place at the disposal of the Director of Censorship such monitoring service and equipment as may be required to exercise radio surveillance over minor commercial radio circuits of the United States which, in the opinion of the Director, cannot be economically censored.

SEC. 7. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, not to exceed \$10,000,000 to effectuate the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 8. Whoever shall wilfully violate any of the provisions of this Act or of any license, rules, or regulation issued thereunder, and whoever shall wilfully violate, neglect, or refuse to comply with any order of the President issued in compliance with the provisions of this Act shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$10,000, or, if a natural person, imprisoned for not more than ten years, or both; and any officer, director, or agent of any corporation who knowingly participates in such violation shall be punished by a like fine, imprisonment, or both, and any property, funds, securities, papers or other articles or documents, or any vessel, together with tackle, apparel, furniture, and equipment, concerned in such violation shall be forfeited to the United States.

MCS:JR
62-62736

October 15, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

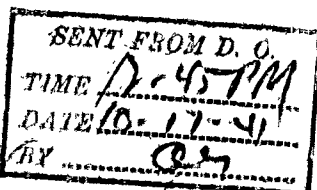
By memorandum of March 17, 1941, addressed to the then Attorney General, I advised of information received to the effect that Army and Navy representatives had prepared a proposed plan with regard to censorship in the United States, my information having been that this plan had been referred to the President some months ago.

I indicated in that memorandum I was not in possession of information as to the details of the plan in question, although I pointed out my belief that if there is to be any kind of communications control setup in this country with regard to censorship, representatives of the FBI should be stationed at those points where censorship offices are located, so that civilian intelligence matters will be promptly and properly routed to the civilian intelligence organizations.

By memorandum of August 7, 1941, Mr. Lawrence K. C. Smith, Chief of the Special Defense Unit of the Department, furnished me with a memorandum on censorship and a draft of a proposed bill which he advised would come to the Department soon.

It is respectfully requested that I be furnished advice by the Department regarding the proposed censorship plan, and whether the FBI will be represented therein, in line with the inquiry in my memorandum of March 17, 1941.

Respectfully,



73
CH-23

RECORDED
John Edgar Hoover
Director

62-62736-12
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 OCT 18 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
October 28, 1941

EAT:DMP
Time 5:45 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: CENSORSHIP

RECORDED

EX - 1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Training Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

Mr. L. M.C. Smith in the Neutrality Laws Unit of the Department called with reference to the above matter, reading the following memorandum which he has prepared to the Attorney General:

"The second letter of the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of War in the above matter brought to my attention by Mr. Fahy raised questions of policy which you may wish to consider. On August 15, 1941, the Secretary of the Navy transmitted for the approval of the Department a draft of a proposed bill to establish censorship control largely under the Army and Navy of inter-territorial communications during the present national emergency or a state of war. Your reply of September 5, 1941, a copy of which is attached, sent by Mr. Fahy after a discussion with Judge Townsend and myself, suggested the advisability first of consultation with those concerned with economic defense, civilian intelligence, and similar non-military activities. It pointed out the desirability of joint consideration of the actual needs and questions of policy involved in censorship at the present time and offered the cooperation of the Department in making detailed suggestions. The Secretaries of War and Navy replied to this in a joint letter, a copy of which is also attached hereto, referring to a Presidential Directive said to approve their plan and requesting your opinion only with respect to the "legal aspects" of the bill. Since the proposal authorized broad censorship at the present time and placed the control largely in the hands of the military departments to the exclusion of civilian agencies concerned with economic defense, subversive activities and civilian morale, you may wish to consider the advisability of personally going into the matter with the Secretary of Navy and Secretary of War and in some manner keeping the problem open either before or after replying as to "legal aspects". Your attention is called to the following considerations: [redacted] experience in the present war has indicated that of all information secured by their censorship organization, almost 2/3 relates solely to economic warfare, 1/4 to enemy agents, fifth-column activities, and only 1/10 to military, naval, or air matters. (2) [redacted] placed control of the censorship

b7D

CH-22

October 28, 1941

in the hands of the military at the beginning of the present war, but it was so unsatisfactory that a complete reorganization of the set-up removing military control was found necessary. (3) The investigation of civilian subversive activities is in the Federal Bureau of Investigation and it does not seem appropriate for the military to invade this field. Leakage of information is to a large extent a matter of civilian policing and the duty of the Army is to fight battles. (4) It is not clear that legislation empowering censorship greater than that required to make effective existing espionage and similar laws would be wise or is actually needed at this time. An inquiry might first be made of the principal investigative agencies of the government to determine to what extent military economic information affecting the security of the country is at the present time actually being sent out of the United States due to our inability to censor it. It is my understanding that Mr. Hoover has substantially the above point of view on the control of censorship by the military departments and it might be desirable to consult with him on this point. As you know, he is the one most actively working with censors. I gathered some time ago that the Federal Communications Commission is not actively in favor of censorship. Regardless of your ultimate decision, I thought you would like to have these points of view presented." b7D

I told Mr. Smith I knew that you would be glad to talk with the Attorney General about this matter and outline to him some of the information which has come to us, particularly from the other side, in the event the Attorney General so desired.

Respectfully,


Edward A. Tamm

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

October 18, 1941

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

50
mr
Your memorandum of October 15th to the Attorney General in regard to censorship has been referred to me. As I told you at our conference some time ago I would try to find out more about the censorship programs of the Navy and others and see if they could not be brought together. The Navy sent over a bill for censorship along the lines of the one which I furnished you. The Attorney General replied stating in effect that there were a great many other interests in censorship than the Army and Navy and that any such bill should take into account the requirements of civilian intelligence, economic defense, etc., and stated that the Department would be glad to cooperate in working out such a bill. As far as I know, no reply has been received to that letter.

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However, I have just begun to work with representatives of the Army and Navy on a survey of leaks of information other than by espionage and have had one meeting. Another meeting is to be held on Monday, October 20th, at 11:00 o'clock in my office. While consideration has not yet been given to censorship, it appears that censorship may be one of the possible remedies against such leaks and that a discussion of the matter may shortly come up in a group. With that in mind, I suggest that you may want to have someone attend the meetings of this group not only so that you may be informed as to what it is doing and help guide it in a way that will best protect your interest in censorship if that becomes involved, but also so that your representative can supply information as to the type of material which is being put out by governmental agencies, manufacturers and others which should be restricted.

Unless I hear from you, may I not expect someone on Monday?

RECORDED

&
INDEXED

Lawrence M. C. Smith
Chief, Special Defense Unit

62-582731-14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 29 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM LADD CARSON

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

EX-2

JEH:DAJ

November 24, 1941

TIME: 3:39 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. Tamm

While talking to Colonel Donovan today on other matters I told him in regard to the censorship plans, which were in the making and which put the censorship under the control of the Naval Communications and the Army, that I was very much opposed to having the censorship handled in this manner.

I told Colonel Donovan that I had submitted a plan to the Attorney General which stated a board composed of representatives from the Army, Navy, Export Control Board, Colonel Donovan's Office, the Justice Department, etc. would be best for handling censorship because when the Army or Navy alone handled it through no fault of their own they were likely to overlook matters which would be of interest to the other Governmental agencies, and would be inclined to give attention only to the military aspects. I also said that this board should be headed by a coordinator or some person to act in that capacity. I told Colonel Donovan that the Attorney General had concurred in this suggestion, and had inquired whether it would be advisable to have some legislation enacted to this effect. I said that it would probably be best for the present to have the President create such a board and that they could be operating under some other name but in effect doing this same type of work until war was declared; that when that day did come a bill could be introduced creating such a board; and the Attorney General had stated he would take this matter up with the President.

Mr. Tolson _____

Mr. E. A. Tamm _____

Mr. Clegg _____

Mr. Foxworth _____

Mr. Glavin _____

Mr. Ladd _____

Mr. Nichols _____

Mr. Rosen _____

Mr. Carson _____

Mr. Drayton _____

Mr. Quinn Tamm _____

Mr. Hendon _____

Mr. Tracy _____

Miss Gandy _____

I told Colonel Donovan that I was informing him about this inasmuch as he would probably be invited to take part in the censorship if and when it did come.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

62-62751-15

NOV 24 1941
11-25-41
927

52

GPG:SB

October 29, 1941

MR. TAMMARMY AND NAVY
CENSORSHIP PLANS

12/1/41 *CS*

On August 7, 1941, Mr. Lawrence H. C. Smith, Chief of the Special Defense Unit of the Department, furnished this Bureau with a memorandum on censorship and a draft of a proposed bill which had been prepared by the Army and Navy. Smith explained that he had secured this memorandum and bill confidentially, and that it had not been formally presented to the Department. The memorandum was prepared by a joint committee consisting of Major General R. C. Richardson, United States Army, and Rear Admiral J. O. Richardson, United States Navy. Based upon the recommendations set out in this memorandum a bill was prepared for the purpose of establishing a national censorship agency. The bill authorizes the President to establish a censorship of communications by mail, cable, radio, telephone, telegraph, teletype, visual means, sound, homing pigeons, or any means whatever between the United States, its territories and possessions and any foreign country or vessel.

62-62736-16

The bill provides for the Presidential appointment of a Director of Censorship, who will be assisted by an Army representative known as "Chief Postal and Wire Censor" and a Navy representative known as "Chief Radio and Cable Censor", which representatives shall perform duties as executive assistants to the Director of Censorship. The bill further provides that on the request of the Director of Censorship, the War, Navy and Treasury Departments are authorized to detail any officers and enlisted men as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of the Act. It also provides that the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission is directed to place at the disposal of the Director of Censorship such monitoring service and equipment as may be required to exercise radio surveillance over minor commercial radio circuits.

This bill further authorizes the Director of Censorship to employ the necessary civilian personnel to effect the provisions of the Act, to require the registration and licensing of all agencies owning homing pigeons, and to require the registration and licensing of those agencies to be permitted to transmit to foreign countries newspapers, etc., free of censorship.

Censorship of Mails & Cables
Confidentiality

Mr. Tolson ☒

Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒

Mr. Clegg ☒

Mr. Glavin ☒

Mr. Ladd ☒

Mr. Nichols ☒

Mr. Tracy ☒

Mr. Egan ☒

Mr. Carson ☒

Mr. Coffey ☒

Mr. Hendon ☒

Mr. Holloman ☒

Mr. Quinn Tamm ☒

Mr. Nease ☒

Miss Gandy ☒

Memorandum for Mr. Tamm

It is interesting to note that in the joint censorship committee memorandum referred to above, although it was recommended that the President designate a censorship advisory committee consisting of representatives of all interested government departments and agencies to assist and advise the Director of Censorship, no such provision was made in the drafted bill.

Although the Department has been requested to advise us of developments concerning censorship, no indication has been received from the Department that this bill has been formally presented by the War or Navy Departments.

Concerning the present plans of the Navy Department in the censorship field, a special censorship division has been set up within the ONI under the direction of Captain H. K. Penn, who is actively engaged in training personnel for this purpose. Captain Penn has advised that the Office of Naval Intelligence will be responsible for the censorship of cables and telegrams, and that the Army would have control of the postal censorship. Indicative of the Navy's activities in this field, information was received in May, 1941, from the International Telephone and Telegraph Company of New York City that four floors of that building are being reserved for a Navy Censorship Division and, further, that the necessary communication lines have been run into the building. The setup is said to be such that censorship can be started upon an hour's notice. Further, during July, 1941, instructions were issued to the District Intelligence officer at Honolulu concerning the action to be taken when censorship is invoked. These instructions provided for cable and radio censorship and set out the type of messages which should be suppressed, referred to Washington, delayed or passed free of censorship. Although these instructions were to be placed into effect when censorship is invoked, information has been received from SAC Shivers that the ONI at Honolulu is actively engaged in censoring radiograms. On October 6, 1941, Mr. Shivers advised that the ONI have perfected an arrangement with the naval radio station in Honolulu to furnish the ONI with copies of radiograms sent and received over the naval radio by other governmental agencies in Hawaii.. A radiogram dispatched by the Acting United States Attorney in Honolulu to the Attorney General in Washington, D. C., and a radiogram from the Attorney General to the United States Attorney's office at Honolulu were made available by the naval radio station to the ONI. The Attorney General has been advised of this. Information has also been received from SAC Danner that the ONI is making plans to perfect censorship in the State of Florida.

Concerning the plans of the War Department in the censorship field, Major W. Preston Corderman has been placed in charge of the censorship division of the Military Intelligence Division, and is actively engaged in training personnel in this work. On September 26, 1941, Lieutenant Colonel Stacy Knopf, G-2, Atlanta, Georgia, confidentially advised SAC Hammack that he had been instructed by his superiors in Washington to prepare a plan for the censorship of all communications leaving this country.

Memorandum for Mr. Tamm

or arriving in this country at the various ports, and that such a censorship would involve mail, telephone, telegraph and radio. Information was also received from Colonel L. R. Forney, G-2 at San Francisco, that the Army is prepared for censorship in the Ninth Corps Area, and that there are presently twenty officers assigned within this Corps Area to plan for a censorship setup and provide for office space.

You will recall that representatives of the Army, Navy and Department of Justice have formed a committee for the purpose of formulating a plan to prevent the leakage of information where espionage is not involved. Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith is the Department representative on this committee. This committee is presently engaged in considering the various problems presented in this field, such as the sources of leakage and the types of information which are innocently being made public. No definite recommendations have been made by this committee to date.

From a review of the above activities on the part of the War and Navy Departments it can be seen that they are attempting to establish themselves in dominant positions in relation to any national censorship program. Before suggesting what position the Bureau should take with reference to such a program, I wanted to set out the experiences of the [redacted] in their censorship, as it should be of great assistance in formulating any plan here. b7D

On the outbreak of war postal and telegraph censorship in England was set up as a branch of the Military Intelligence Directorate of the General Staff. During the first three months of operation it was demonstrated that the censorship could not fulfill its proper function under service control, which resulted in the [redacted] appointing two joint civilian directors to replace the military controller and his staff. The control of censorship policy was placed in the hands of a committee on which all the principal departments of the government were represented.

[redacted] state that this setup is functioning smoothly and is the only practical solution because of the following reasons: b7D

A common conception of censorship is that it exists principally for the purpose of military security and that its functions are to prevent information of military value reaching the enemy and, secondly, to gather information to be used to the advantage of the censoring country. This conception was more justified during the first World War when the Germans relied on military espionage and censorship played a large part in defeating their espionage activities and unmasking its agents, but

Memorandum for Mr. Tamm

-4-

even in the last war [] found that censorship had a much more important function — that of providing information on which the blockade of the enemy could be efficiently maintained by discovering the hidden channels used for the import and export of goods and the financing of the war. In the present war Germany relies far more on propaganda than upon espionage, and England has found that Germany's use of the mails and cables for the purposes of espionage is limited. Thus the value of censorship for the purpose of military security is greatly lessened.

b7D

The securing of information from the censorship useful in maintaining the blockade is described as an offensive function and of particular importance in the present war where the opportunities for purely military offensive action are limited and economic and financial pressure are vital weapons. England has found that considerably more than half of the valuable information at present derived from the censorship relates to economic warfare or financial pressure, with about one-fourth relating to intelligence matters, and from seven to ten per cent being of interest to naval, military or air intelligence services. Due to this situation England has found that its service offices find it difficult to deal effectively with censorship matters pertaining to intricate business or financial transactions. Also, at the outbreak of the war in England the military intelligence found that it was fully occupied directly with military functions so that it was impossible to give the necessary attention to the control of an organization of civilians larger than the staff of the war office, who were engaged in totally non-military work. The [] also state that even though the naval or military intelligence offices were suitable to control censorship, it would have soon been apparent that censorship affected too many departments of government to be effectively controlled by any one.

b7D

In view of the experience in [] it is suggested the Bureau position be that censorship in this country should not be entrusted to the Army, the Navy or any other presently existing governmental agency, but should be under the direct control of an independent civilian agency, the director of which would be responsible only to the President. Since it would be necessary for any censorship agency to be fully and currently advised concerning the types of information to be alert for, the manner in which such information might be communicated, as by the use of secret inks, reduced photography, etc., and the usual channels through which such information might flow, such as individuals and corporations suspected of espionage activities, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Army and the Navy could act in an advisory capacity for such a purpose. The Navy or War Departments should not be given the responsibility of censorship work since in the event of war their entire personnel would be needed for strictly military operations and would not be available for non-military operations such as censorship. In addition,

Memorandum for Mr. Tamm

-5-

in order to have a successful censorship the personnel must include commercial, industrial, financial, legal, and medical experts, in addition to translators, laboratory technicians, etc. Such personnel would not be presently available to the Army and Navy for this purpose. Also, because of the interest which other government departments have in censorship, it must be under the control of an impartial agency so that the information will be furnished to the proper government agency without bias or undue delay.

In reference to the proposed censorship bill of the Army and Navy it is noted that a provision is included providing for a representative of the Army and Navy to serve in the capacity of executive assistants to the Director of Censorship. As such they would be in a position to influence the operations of any such agency, which influence would no doubt be resolved in their favor and result in information concerning civilian intelligence and counterespionage being referred to ONI and G-2 rather than the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I feel that the Army and Navy should have no such control over censorship and that all executives or policy-fixing officials connected with any censorship agency should in no way be affiliated with any other government department.

I am advised that at one time in England the post office handled censorship, which procedure proved unsuccessful. I believe, therefore, that the post office in this country would be equally unsuccessful in handling any censorship program, since this would again be placing this responsibility in an existing government agency.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Invest
United States Department of
Washington, D. C.
December 7, 1941

CHC:ALM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Mr. Fletcher Warren of the State Department has requested the Bureau to ask all Bureau Field Offices to immediately contact all ~~telephone~~ and ~~telegraph~~ companies within their respective districts requesting these companies to immediately cancel all Japanese telephone calls whatsoever to points outside the United States, also all telegraphic communications whatsoever to points outside the United States, except those filed by officials of the Japanese Embassy or officials of the various Japanese Consulates if "official" messages.

I asked Mr. Warren if this would include any message that the Embassy officials or Consuls filed as an official message. He stated, "Yes," but that the State Department is now trying to determine whether we can stop all telegraphic messages to points outside the United States except by Embassy officials in Washington. I reiterated to Mr. Warren that these instructions do not include any request by us to have the telegraph companies submit all messages sent as official messages by Embassy and Consular officials for censorship, etc. Mr. Warren stated that that is right and that the latter procedure is not desired by the FBI.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd
D. M. Ladd

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-62736-17

RECEIVED	LOCATION
5	8
FIVE	

0042/R/L

HHC:MS

November 28, 1941

THE DIRECTOR

11/14/42 *CHP*
675
There is attached hereto a report of the survey of existing practices in government establishments concerning censorship and related activities.

In conducting this survey, attention has been focused upon four points.

1. Present practices
2. Authority for such practices
3. Principles of selectivity
4. Needs

*bulky incl. listed on
bulky incl. stamp*
The recommendations which are submitted it is believed should be made in as broad and general terms as possible and along policy lines rather than with qualifications and details which might be objectionable.

Others who were interviewed not referred to as a specific subject in the attached report are as follows:

Colonel Donovan's Office: He states he is not engaged in any form of censorship whatsoever.

Interior Department, Territories and Insular Possessions and Alaska Division: No censorship activities.

Commerce Department, Foreign and Domestic Commerce Division and Information Service: No censorship practices.

Labor Department: No information as to any censorship activities could be obtained from officials of this department.

Special Defense Unit: No censorship practices.

The communications establishments of the Navy and Coast Guard, although admitting certain listening in or monitoring procedures, advised they were engaged in no activities which would come under the head of censorship and the details of their activities were of such a confidential nature that they should not be included in any report.

62-62736-17X
Wey

- 2 -



b7D

Respectfully,

H. H. Clegg

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

DML:CSH

December 2, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: CENSORSHIP PROGRAM

I have gone over the revised
censorship program, submitted by Mr. Clegg,
and believe it is satisfactory and that the
recommendations cover the proposed censorship
program in an entirely satisfactory manner.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd
D. M. Ladd

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Neill _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Your Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED

62-62736-17x1

F	B	I
2 NOV 16 1941		
FIVE		

57 NOV 18 1942
266781 NOV 18 1942

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JES:MAM

TO : MR. NICHOLS

FROM : R. F. CARTWRIGHT

DATE: November 20, 1945

SUBJECT: CENSORSHIP
Bureau File #62-62736-17X

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

This enclosure consists of reports of the survey of existing practices in government establishments concerning censorship and related activities.

There are ten identical copies of this report. In view of this, it appears that some of the copies could be destroyed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Inasmuch as this enclosure is occupying valuable space in the Records Section it is requested that this file be reviewed by the Security Division for an expression as to the disposition of this material.

It is recommended that two copies be retained and the other eight destroyed here at the Seat of Government.

51 NOV 27 1945
Retain 2 copies
11/27/45
E. J. 11/18
J. H. 11/18
b. 11/18

Encl. destroyed
11-27-45 JH

62-62736-17

11/27/45

JHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:DS

December 2, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Neenan _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

I have reviewed the survey of censorship practices and plans as revised to contain a preface consisting of 12 pages containing recommendations and general organization of the censorship program and a chart of general organization. I believe that the recommendations are sound; that the program is practical and desirable; and that it accomplishes the objectives of censorship without abrogating the operational field of the Bureau. I have no suggestions or changes to offer on the memorandum in its present form.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

11/5 Disapproved
filing
TJ

57 NOV 18 1942
266

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&
INDEXED
D11

62-62736-17X2

F	B	I
2 NOV 16 1942		

297

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 7 1941

TELETYPE

Mr. Cunningham
Mr. Fitch
Mr. Kimball
Mr. Kramer
Mr. Strickland
Mr. Timm

Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Egan
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FBI SAN FRANCISCO

12-7-41

8-30 PM

GWS

DIRECTOR

REFERENCE YOUR TELETYPE OF THIS DATE YOUR TIME TEN PM . STOPS PLACED
WITH RCA COMMUNICATIONS, PRESS WIRELESS INC., GLOBE WIRELESS INC.,
AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH CO., PACIFIC TEL AND TEL CO.,
COMMERCIAL PACIFIC CABLE COM., MACKAY RADIO AND TELEGRAPH CO.,
SUCH THAT ALL PRESS COMMUNICATIONS TO JAPAN, GERMANY, ITALY, FRANCE,
AND FINLAND WILL BE STOPPED.

PIEPER

END ACK

OK FBI WASH DC NG

M

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-62736-18
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 DEC 8 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

CH-21

293

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 6 1941

TELETYPE

Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Holloman	.....
Mr. Quin Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

FBI SAN FRANCISCO

8-15 PM

12-7-41

GWS

DIRECTOR

PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED FROM CARSON VIA TELETYPE THREE FORTY PM ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE TO STOP ALL MESSAGES FROM DOMEI NEWS AGENCY TO JAPAN, JAPANESE EMPIRE, AND JAPANESE OCCUPIED AND CONTROLLED COUNTRIES. STOPS PLACED WITH ~~RANK~~ RCA COMMUNICATIONS, GLOBE WIRELESS, AMERICAN TEL AND TEL, PRESS WIRELESS, MACKAY RADIO, AND COMMERCIAL PACIFIC CABLE COMPANY. ~~THESE~~ THESE ARE THE ONLY COMPANIES OPERATING TRANS-PACIFIC COMMUNICATIONS. NAVY CENSORS ALREADY ON DUTY WITH GLOBE WIRELESS, AMERICAN TEL AND TEL, RCA COMMUNICATIONS, MACKAY RADIO, PRESS WIRELESS, AND COMMERCIAL PACIFIC CABLE. THEY ARE STOPPING ALL MESSAGES TO JAPAN, JAPANESE EMPIRE, AND CONTROLLED COUNTRIES.

NICHI, ~~XXXX~~ NICHI NICHI, OSAKA MAIMICHI, YOMURI NEWS AGENCY INDICATED BY CARSON TO BE JAPANESE NEWS AGENCIES IN U. S. ARE NEWSPAPERS IN JAPAN, OSAHI IS PROBABLY OSAKA., JAPANESE NEWSPAPER IN JAPAN.

PIEPER

CH-25

137

END ACK

OK FBI WASH ON

cc. Ladd

28

DEC 7 1941

Mr. Cunningham
Mr. Fitch
Mr. Kimball
Mr. Kramer
Mr. Strickland
Mr. Timm

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ATLANTA, GA.

12-7-41

11-10 PM EMT

DIRECTOR

SAC, NEW YORK

HEADQUARTERS SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY, ATLANTA, ADVISE THAT ANY LONG DISTANCE CALLS DESTINED FOR ANY OF THE COUNTRIES LISTED ON BUREAU TELETYPE TEN P. M. TODAY MUST GO THROUGH NEW YORK CITY. FURTHER THAT CALLS FOR JAPAN WOULD BE FINALLY COMPLETED AT SAN FRANCISCO. THEY SUGGEST BLOCKING THOSE POINTS.

HAMMACK

END

ACK PLS WASH

OK FBI WASH DC NG

NYC OK FBI NYC WRS

V

*S. F. was advised
see wire from them
JH.*

RECORDED

62-62736-20

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE			

73

CH-26

JEH:PB:DAJ

Copy fb

December 8, 1941

TIME: 11:24 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

Captain Wilkinson of ONI called at this time and inquired as to the drag net problem. I advised him that 861 were in custody at the present time, including the Hawaiian Islands, without any difficulty. I told Captain Wilkinson that we had contacted all our offices and no sabotage had been attempted. Captain Wilkinson advised that 50 pounds of dynamite had been found by them under a dock at New Orleans.

I told him that I had talked to our Honolulu office this morning and that there was another big raid taking place at the moment in a larger number than any of the previous raids. The civilian population is in good shape in Hawaii and there is no hysteria or panic. I told him that a rumor concerning the tampering of the water supply has not as yet been confirmed, and that those of the parachute troops who attempted to get in yesterday were all caught or killed.

I advised Captain Wilkinson that the President verbally informed me that pending further arrangements he was designating me to act in charge of all censorship to try to bring about a coordination of it; and that in due time the President will have the necessary legislation enacted to make the permanent designation.

Captain Wilkinson advised that cable and radio censorship has been put into effect under Naval authority until such time as we feel we will be able to take them over. He said that the setup could be taken over when it was convenient with me. I told him that sometime today after the Presidential order was received I wanted to call a meeting between him and his officer in charge of censorship together with General Miles, Major Corderman, and probably Mr. Fly of the FCC in order that the whole situation might be reviewed informally. I told him that I would call him in about an hour or two to let him know when the meeting would be held.

RECORDED

Very truly yours,

DEC

John Edgar Hoover
Director

December 8, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS, TOLSON
 TAMM
 ROSEN
 LADD
 NICHOLS
 GLAVIN
 TRACY
 CLEGG

This is to advise that Captain Fenn, Chief Cable Censor of the Naval Intelligence, has furnished information that he has received a teletype from his censor in San Francisco to this effect:

"FBI in Honolulu frequently using radio telephone to FBI Washington for such messages as 'Bombing raid going on now.' Am not suppressing but suggest FBI be cautioned to use discretion."

Offlay*
 (San Francisco censor)

It is desired that discretion be utilized in the use of radio telephone since it is established that Naval Intelligence is monitoring all communications by this means.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
 Director

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED & INDEXED
 TIME 6:37
 DATE 12/18/41
 BY [Signature]

62-62736-23

DEC 9 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 7, 1941

JEH:JRC

TIME: 10:38 PM

b7E

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

The Attorney General called and stated he had a memorandum from Steve Early that Chairman Fly called, - Mr. Early - in regard to censorship and communications; they have made pretty good progress along these lines; however, there has been some confusion because of lack of coordination. Chairman Fly is about to pull the plug on the telephone service of the various Embassies - Japan, Germany, Italy, Bulgaria, Hungary, Roumania, Spain, etc. The only reason he has some hesitancy is that he is quite sure these countries will do fully as much if not more to our people in their countries. Chairman Fly wants to do this with the full knowledge that we realize the consequences in this respect, and suggests this come from the State Department. Chairman Fly and Breckinridge Long have agreed on the move to carry out the original idea.

Tomorrow Chairman Fly is having a meeting to discuss this in regard to telephone and telegraph companies on domestic messages. He is not going to move on this tonight. Mr. Early wants to know what to do.

The Attorney General asked if this would affect our technical surveillances if the plug is pulled. I told the Attorney General that we have stopped all communications in to the various Embassies tonight at the request of the State Department over the local exchanges. I told the Attorney General that since no messages of importance were going out anyway, that it would not make much difference whether or not we took a stand.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

&
INDEXED

John Edgar Hoover

Director

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 1:20
DATE 12/8/41
BY J.H.

62-12776 24
DEC 8 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COPY/aw

JEHLJRC

December 8, 1941

TIME: 4:53 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD
MR. CLEGG

Pursuant to the Attorney General's request, I called him in regard to censorship.

I told him the meeting had just adjourned, and all present had initialed the Bill. I told him there were one or two ideas which I had asked Mr. Smith to present to him, the Attorney General. I advised the Attorney General that the meeting went very smoothly; there were a very definite number of things which had to be done; there have been a large number of [REDACTED]

b7E

[REDACTED] I informed the Attorney General that the only person with whom I might have difficulty is the Navy Department man, Captain Fenn, and I thought I could handle him. Captain Fenn has the idea that he started the whole idea of censorship and apparently resents anyone else working on it. I told him that I have talked to Secretary Knox and he is in complete agreement with me.

I advised the Attorney General that tomorrow morning there will be a meeting of the Operational Committee to set up the details - this does not mean that we have not started to function but these meetings are for the purpose of making recommendations to the permanent set-up. Then Mr. MacLeish's Committee will meet tomorrow afternoon and will consist of Mr. MacLeish, General Miles, Captain Wilkinson and myself. This Committee will lay down certain basic policies and principles.

I told the Attorney General there were three things in his hands which I thought should be pressed as vigorously as possible. First, the legislation; secondly, the designation of some person for the permanent position - this person should not be in the government today; and third, it will be very important to enlist the services and cooperation of the newspaper fraternities to impose a voluntary censorship upon themselves - this could be done by picking a group of three or four radio or newspaper

editors who could sit in with these committees who are functioning on censorship to sit in and give advice and make suggestions. I told the Attorney General that if the designation of a permanent committee is going to be delayed that we should endeavor to immediately get these radio and newspaper men to functioning. I told him I was afraid that through some of these government departments an erroneous leak in confidential information will result giving the wrong impression of censorship. I told him that if we could have sitting in with Mr. MacLeish's Committee one or two persons who could give advice as to what the public ought or ought not have, these people would feel they were on the inside even though we did not pay any attention to their suggestions.

I advised the Attorney General that unless a question on this was raised, that we should not yet make any public announcement, but should proceed as quietly as possible.

The Attorney General said he thinks the Bill might go through tomorrow; the Vice President and all of them are agreed upon it. If the Bill does go through the Attorney General said he will work on a public statement.

The Attorney General stated he would like to have a brief report on censorship to give to the President. I told him that he would have this tonight, that it has already been dictated.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COPY/aw

JEH:DAJ

December 8, 1941

TIME: 11:47 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

At this time I called Huntington Cairns at the Treasury Department and told him that I had just been informed by the Attorney General that the President had just signed the order designating me for the time being to serve as the coordinator of censorship matters. I asked Mr. Cairns if he would meet me along with General Miles and Major Corderman of MID, Captain Wilkinson and Captain Fenn of ONI, Mr. Ironside of the Post Office and Mr. Fly of FCC and Mr. MacLeish.

Mr. Cairns suggested that we might also desire that Mr. Gaston attend this meeting. I told him that we would be very happy to have Mr. Gaston come too.

Mr. Cairns stated that the Treasury Department now has absolute censorship authority under an old Wilson order and they are anxious to get rid of it as soon as possible. He said that he had asked Mr. Biddle to whom this power should be delegated, and that Mr. Biddle had told him he would let him know this afternoon. I told Mr. Cairns that Mr. Biddle had not spoken to me about the matter but that I would probably see him at noon today. I told Mr. Cairns that my personal suggestion would be that under the present circumstances we should operate under the structure that is now set up until the President makes the permanent designation of the Censorship Director.

I told Mr. Cairns that I was not handling the censorship project as Director of the FBI but in another capacity as directed by the President until further plans are promulgated. I told him that I was serving in a confidential capacity and that it was not for publication.

I told him that the above meeting would be at 3 o'clock in my office this afternoon.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

December 8, 1941

JLH:JM

3:53 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. CLEGG
MR. LADD

The Attorney General called me in reference to the censorship matter. He wanted to know the names of the people who were in conference with me on this matter. I advised him that Captain Fenn and Captain Wilkinson from ONI, General Miles and Major Corderman from the Army, Mr. Catena and Mr. Gaston of the Treasury Department, Mr. Ironside of the Post Office Department, Mr. Mac Leish of the Office of Facts and Figures, Mr. Gordon was one of the Ambassadors from the State Department, and Mr. Jett and Mr. Harris from FCC. I told the Attorney General that the entire group is in complete conformity as to the procedure which should be taken in this matter.

The Attorney General advised me that the Department of Justice has agreed on the bill which will give the President full censorship powers. He said that he will send the bill over to me so that I could ask all the men in attendance at the conference to initial it. Mr. Biddle said that after these men initial the bill he will take it to the Cabinet meeting and get it drafted so that it can be put into effect as soon as possible.

I told the Attorney General that I had talked with Secretary Knox before the conference started. I advised him that Knox was satisfied with the plans.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

The Attorney General said that the White House called and advised him that Colonel Donovan was having a censorship meeting this afternoon. The White House had asked the Attorney General to have the meeting called off. Mr. Biddle called Donovan and was advised that Donovan was only taking up the question of short wave. The Attorney General told Donovan to get in touch with me, and to let me know what his plans are.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

65-1218-25

DEC 9 1941

JEH:JRC

December 8, 1941

TIME: 4:59 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

MR. EAMM

MR. LADD

MR. CLEGG

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I called the Attorney General pursuant to his request, and among other things he mentioned that Steve Early has proposed the name of Byron Price, Executive News Editor of the Associated Press, to be the permanent Director of Censorship.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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62-62736-28

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 DEC 9 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The operations known by the rather inaccurate general name of "censorship" have two sides, the defensive and the offensive.

The defensive side of censorship - almost the only aspect in which it is known to the public - consists in the examination of mail originating in or addressed to the censoring nation's own territory or a theatre of overseas operations in order to prevent the disclosure of information of value to the enemy and to detect and hamper hostile or subversive influences. This function, though most important, is relatively simple in its organization and the staff employed can be relatively mobile. As an example, using [redacted] experience, it is pointed out that [redacted] [redacted] carried out his duties with [redacted] [redacted] and at once resumed work in England; and since a pool of trained staff was available, inland censorships were set up at very short notice.

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The offensive side, which lies in attacking, so far as possible the world over, enemy communications and commercial intercourse and collecting, in the process, information as to his plans and activities, is of even greater importance and requires a complex and comparatively static organization.

b7D

uses a chain of carefully coordinated stations.

It is upon the work of these stations that effective economic warfare depends. None of the mail routes now pass, as they did in the last war, through English home waters; and the importance attached to their control elsewhere may perhaps be judged from the fact that since last summer the former Controller of Imperial Censorship has worked in the East and the Imperial Chief Postal Censor in the Western Hemisphere.

The authorities doubtless contemplate, in our war plans, a similar postal blockade of a possible enemy; and circumstances might well arise (as happened in England in August, 1939) when security might demand

that those plans be put into effect without actual involvement in war. The sudden setting up of a fresh censorship network must have a serious and might have a disastrous effect on the existing [redacted] unless the impact of one on the other, and their mutual relations, are discussed and decided in advance.

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Let us take one example. The most important of all [redacted]

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All mails between the Americas and Europe, except those passing via the Pacific or the Lati air service, are controlled there; and it is there that the pick of the expert staff, with records and apparatus, have been installed. If this station ceased to operate effectively, the blow to economic warfare would be very severe and other branches of intelligence would suffer appreciably. But all the mails dealt with at Bermuda pass through the United States (though nearly two-thirds of them are Latin American); and the United States, on setting up censorship, would have a most legitimate interest in them.

Similar problems might arise between other stations; Manila and Hong Kong; Honolulu or San Francisco and Vancouver; Cristobal or San Juan and, Trinidad. If allowed actually to arise, they might disrupt the remaining mail communications of a large part of the world as well as nullifying much of the effective work of both censorship systems.

It is therefore suggested that informal preliminary conversations, without commitment, be entered into with a view to planning such de-limitation of territory, joint operation or other means which would prevent the consequences foreseen in the preceding paragraph.

have placed before the United States Government full particulars of their organization and plans and are communicating to the departments all desired information which may arise from the examination of mails. They have invited and welcomed the visit of United States officials to their stations and would welcome liaison of a more

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extensive and more permanent kind if circumstances were held to warrant it. Should the United States at any time set up censorship in conditions which brought them into active association

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it may be felt that the appointment by each country of liaison staffs to the principal stations of the other would be one step necessary to coordination and to the best use of the information found.

The present position is that the Navy Department has been for some time actively preparing an organization which could come into force in the event of censorship being applied generally with regard to telegraphic communications. This organization will in fact shortly begin to function in Iceland.

The War Department is engaged upon preparing an organization to deal with postal communications in the event of general censorship of those communications being established. This organization will also begin to function in Iceland and is already functioning under

arrangements made in [] as part of the bases
agreement and in collaboration with organizations
[] where the United States has
bases.

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The Naval and Military organizations referred
to above are being organized in close collaboration
with [] and have reached an advanced degree
of planning, while it is proposed that the Navy and
Army respectively should prepare the executive end
of the telegraph and postal organization, it is
thought advisable that the two organizations shall be
combined under a civilian head.

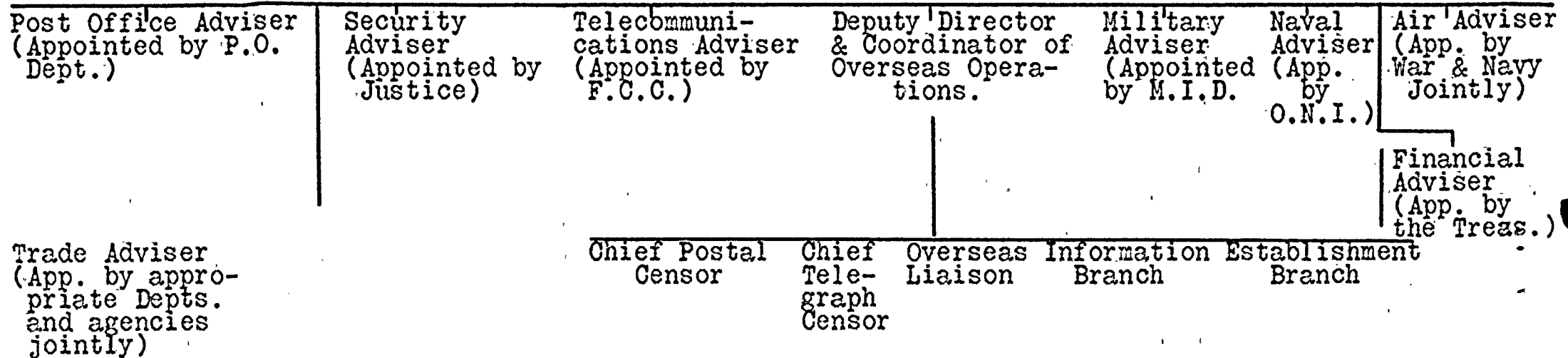
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It is suggested that the appointment of the
civilian head is perhaps the most important further
step which should be taken together with possibly an
inter-departmental committee representing the needs
of the various departments which, if the censorship
organization were to begin to function in a general way,
would be the users of the information supplied. Although

the Naval and Military organizations at present being planned and to some extent in existence, provide for this civilian head, it cannot fully function until it is appointed.

Attached is a chart showing in general terms the sort of set-up for the Director's office which might be given study and consideration. On this chart the existing plans of the Navy Department would fit in under the head "Chief Telegraph Censor" and those of the War Department under "Chief Postal Censor."

Director of Postal & Telegraph
Censorship (answerable only to
the White House)



The 'Advisers', the Director & Deputy Director, the C.P.C. & C.T.C. and representatives of the State Department and of any other Departments or agencies interested, to constitute a standing Committee by which censorship policy would be discussed and coordinated. Departmental representatives on the Committee should be sufficiently senior to answer for their Departments in all ordinary cases without referring for instructions. 'Advisers' (but not other departmental representatives) would give their full time to work at Censorship Headquarters. Their duties would be (1) to maintain liaison with their respective departments (2) to see that the views and requirements of their departments were kept before censorship (3) to help censorship, within their respective spheres, to operate in the most effective way. Neither they nor the Committee as a whole would possess executive powers, which (within the framework of the law) would reside solely in the Director.



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

HHC:BG

November 29, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Censorship

There is attached hereto a memorandum handed to me by Colonel Donovan on the subject of censorship. He stated that the memorandum was dictated personally by [redacted]

[redacted] The contents of this memorandum, not otherwise shown, were not included in the survey memorandum for the reason it appears that this particular memorandum has for its purpose quite largely the obtaining of assurance that the United States Government, on establishing censorship, will not interfere with [redacted] censorship, and it calls for preliminary conversations without commitment with a view to planning a de-limitation of territory.

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒
Mr. Clegg ☒
Mr. Foxworth ☒
Mr. Glavin ☒
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☒
Mr. Rosen ☒
Mr. Carson ☒
Mr. Drayton ☒
Mr. Quinn Tamm ☒
Mr. Hendon ☒
Mr. Coffey ☒
Mr. Harbo ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Your Room ☒
Mr. Nease ☒
Mr. Tracy ☒
Miss Gandy ☒

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Respectfully,

b7D

1 ENCL 16 07

H. H. Clegg

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Attachment

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16 JAN 16 1943

December 8, 1941

J: H: JN

2:53 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. Tamm
MR. Clegg
MR. Ladd

Secretary Know called me to advise that he has just received a bulletin from the President stating that I have been given charge of all censorship work. He said that he was somewhat confused because the Navy has already installed a Navy censorship of outgoing ~~public~~ radio messages. He wanted to know whether my work would only include domestic matters. I told him that the action which he has taken was entirely permissible.

I told the Secretary that I was having a meeting here at 3:00 PM and that Captain Wilkinson and Captain Fenn of his department would be at the meeting. I told him that we were not going to change any of the present set-up but would utilize the facilities already in operation. I told him that we were merely going to coordinate the operation of censorship work.

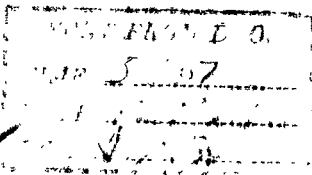
Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

INDEXED

62-64736-29



JEH:JRC

December 8, 1941

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TIME: 2:20 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD
MR. CLEGG

I called Mr. MacLeish and asked him if he could come to the meeting this afternoon about ten minutes ahead of the others. I told him I had some very important things I would like to discuss with him before presenting them to the others.

I informed Mr. MacLeish I had in mind the appointment of two committees. One, to be headed by Mr. Clegg, to set up the operational details and then to report their recommendations to the full committee; on this committee would be the Army and Navy.

I advised Mr. MacLeish I would like to set up another committee to determine upon the basic policy and principles of censorship, and I would like to have him act as Chairman of this Committee. I told him on this committee would be ONI, MID, and FBI. This committee would consider what can and what cannot be told. Mr. MacLeish stated this was the nearest thing to his heart in our government, and this was the most important thing we have to face right now.

I told Mr. MacLeish that by this we could go on record and perhaps these recommendations and policies would be adopted by the permanent Director of Censorship.

Mr. Tolson _____

Mr. E. A. Tamm _____

Mr. Clegg _____

Mr. Foxworth _____

Mr. Glavin _____

Mr. Ladd _____

Mr. Nichols _____

Mr. Rosen _____

Mr. Carson _____

Mr. Drayton _____

Mr. Quinn Tamm _____

Mr. Hendon _____

Mr. Tracy _____

Miss Gandy _____

Mr. MacLeish stated he would do anything I suggested and would come a little early to the meeting.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

62-62736-30

DEC 9 1941

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12/8/41

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Foxworth ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Carson ✓
Mr. Drayton ✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
Mr. Hendon ✓
Mr. Coffey ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Miss Beahm ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

HHC:BG

November 29, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Undersecretary of the Navy Forrestal advised by telephone last night that during the afternoon he had been in touch with Captain Wilkinson and Admiral Ingersoll; that Captain Wilkinson was more or less of the opinion that the FBI should be furnished anything they wanted in connection with the censorship survey but Admiral Ingersoll explained the position of Naval Communications and Mr. Forrestal believed that the reluctance of Naval Communications was well based. Naval Communications, he stated, does not engage in any censorship. They have certain "listening-in" functions, and some of these duties they would not desire to have included in a report because of their strictly confidential character and because there was no censorship in connection with them. He stated he would be glad to discuss this matter with me informally "sometime next week" and I told him I would be very glad to see him at his convenience.

Respectfully,

H. H. Gregg

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HHC:LH

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
November 28, 1941

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒
Mr. Clegg ☐
Mr. Foxworth ☐
Mr. Glavin ☐
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☐
Mr. Rosen ☐
Mr. Carson ☐
Mr. Drayton ☐
Mr. Quinn Tamm ☐
Mr. Hendon ☐
Mr. Coffey ☐
Mr. Harbo ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Tour Room ☐
Mr. Nease ☐
Mr. Tracy ☐
Miss Beahm ☐
Miss Gandy ☐

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Censorship Survey at the Coast Guard

Yesterday I talked with the Assistant Commandant, Captain L. T. Chalker. He furnished me with general information as to what the Coast Guard was doing in the field of monitoring, surveillance and censorship of communications. When I went into details as to practices, he stated he did not know the answer and referred me to Commander Fowler in charge of their Communication Section.

Commander Fowler had no authority to talk. He was under Navy Department instructions at present and the work being done in his section was under Navy jurisdiction, and he could not discuss it without authority from the Navy Department. I called Captain Wilkinson who endeavored through Admiral Noyes and other naval officials to get the authority for Commander Fowler. I could hear Captain Wilkinson talking on another line and he made a sincere and lengthy effort to get the authority but was unable to obtain it.

Following the Director's instructions I telephoned Mr. Forrestal, Assistant Secretary of Navy, late yesterday afternoon. He indicated he would communicate with naval communications and Coast Guard communications this morning with reference to the authority for them to discuss the matter which we are surveying.

At 11:35 today I talked to Admiral Noyes of Naval Communications by telephone. Our purpose and our authority was explained. He stated he had been unable to get in touch with Mr. Forrestal; that this entire matter had come up on a previous occasion and his office was not authorized to discuss their operations, that he could say that Naval Communications were not engaged in any monitoring, surveying or censorship of any communication in any manner for censorship purposes. He stated he wanted to cooperate within the limit of his authority but that quite naturally if [redacted]

[redacted] this could not be discussed. Therefore, all he could say was that any work which was being done had no reference whatsoever to

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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censorship but was being done solely for the purpose of aiding and assisting in making military plans for the the guidance of military practices.

He asked if this was satisfactory and I told him it did not in any way satisfy my inquiry as this Bureau had been instructed to collect information of all types concerning the censoring, monitoring or surveying of all types of communications.

Admiral Noyes stated that he had talked to Captain Wilkinson of Naval Intelligence and Captain Wilkinson had explained the project to him and that Naval Communications was not doing anything within the scope of Captain Wilkinson's understanding of the survey to be made.

From FCC we have received information that interceptions of communications are being received by FCC from the War Department, the Navy Department and the Coast Guard as well as requesting for monitoring and surveying.

I see no point in making a further effort in this direction other than to report the conversation with Admiral Noyes and with the Assitant Commandant of the Coast Guard and to make the further observation that they declined to discuss any of their current activities beyond this.

Respectfully,

H. H. Clegg

1300 Biscayne Building
Miami, Florida
November 26, 1941

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL

left over

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

b7E

Dear Sir: ATTENTION: Assistant Director E. A. TAMM

Reference is made to my telephone conversation with Mr.
TAMM this evening regarding my recent [redacted]

[redacted]

With regard to the censorship of mail, I understand on
general interviews in the [redacted]

b7E

[redacted]

[redacted]

With regard to the censorship of cables, the situation
is apparently much farther advanced. From various interviews with
the officials [redacted]

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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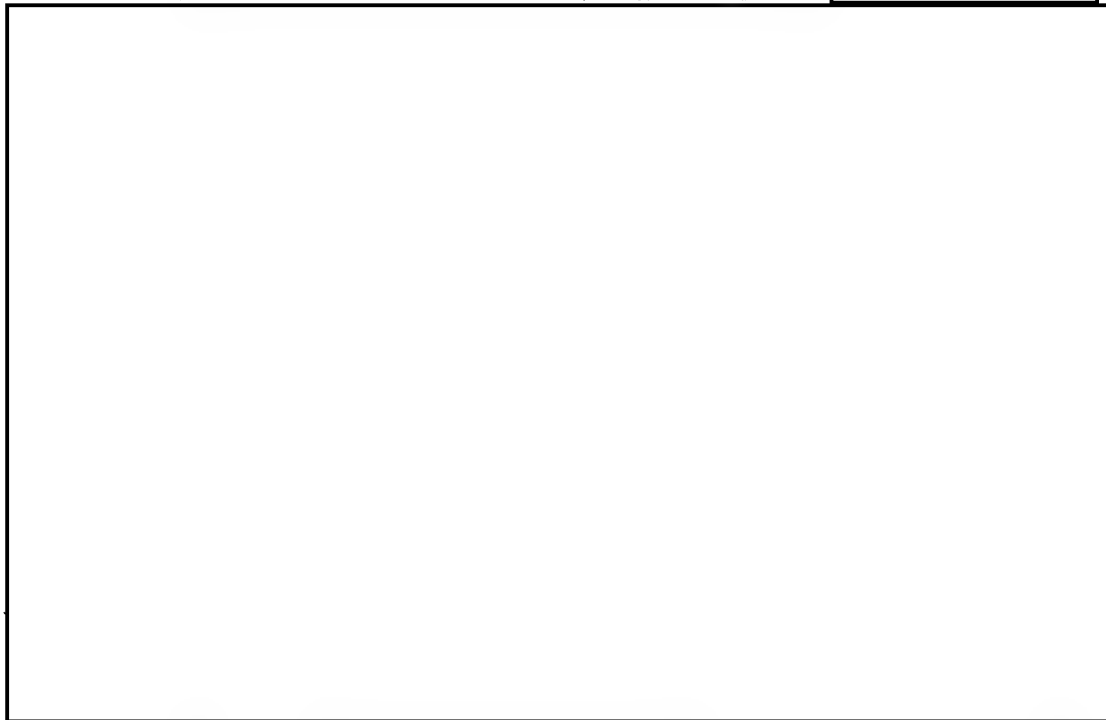


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The evidence of this is the fact that one



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With regard to the information the



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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] advised that there were several instances like that. She could not remember exact details.

It appears that the [REDACTED]

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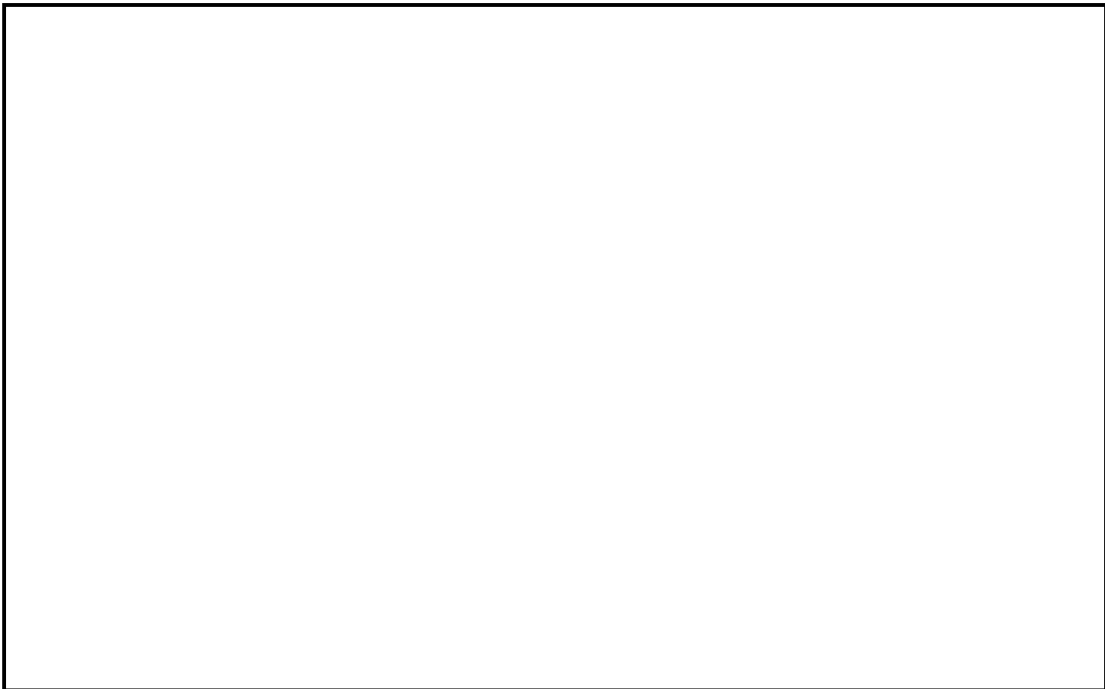
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] mentioned above, which they have still not circulated.

As further indication of the fact that a censorship is being maintained by the [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]



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In addition to the above specific instances where calls were made, [redacted]

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As a final instance in connection with a censorship of a different type, [redacted]

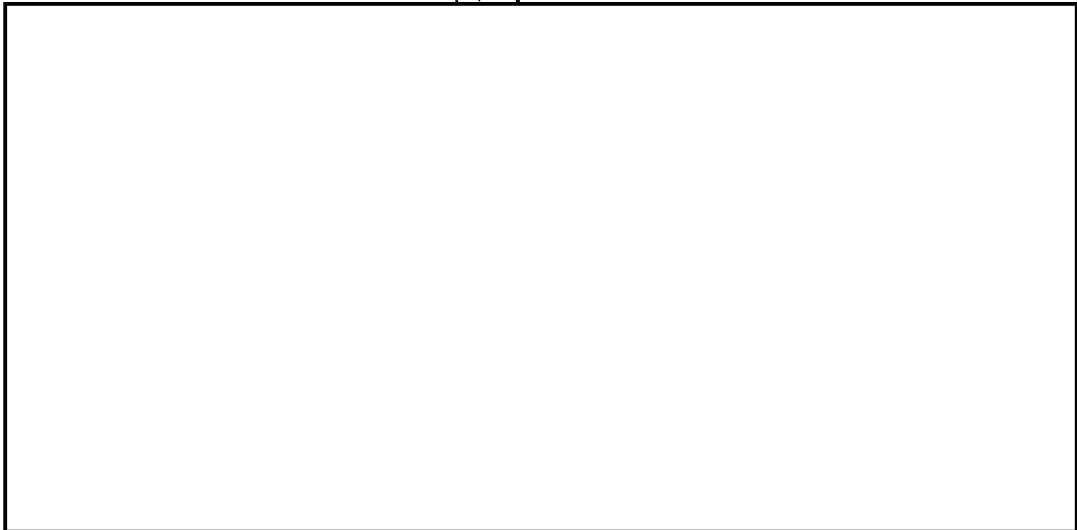
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The whole situation regarding cable checks is the core of quite a bit of trouble now in the [redacted]

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b7E

The above information was furnished me in the strictest confidence and great care should be used to protect the identity of the informants in the matter.

Very truly yours,

R. E. GLEASON
Special Agent in Charge

RFG:jcl

HNC:MS

November 28, 1941

THE DIRECTOR

Re: Censorship Survey

I interviewed Judge Townsend on the censorship survey problem. He gave a history of the inauguration of the Cabinet Committee and stated that the legislation which he aided Judge Holtzoff and Mr. Smith in preparing was intentionally general in terms so that the President, in setting up a censorship establishment when necessary, would not be restricted or have his hands tied as to personnel or organization requirements.

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Upon receipt of the proposed Army-Navy Bill to authorize censorship, a communication was prepared and applied criticizing it in several respects including policy. A reply was received to this communication which was expressed in such tones as to arouse indignation that the Department of Justice would consider any matter of policy, since the President had signed the joint Army-Navy plan. Judge Townsend stated he had been informed the President did not understand he had signed any plan fixing policy for censorship operations. In subsequent committee meetings, Judge Townsend had to "cuss out in polite language" the War Department's representative who did not want to take up the matter of organizational policy. Judge Townsend aided in drafting a bill in as general terms as possible which he believed to be advisable.

Judge Townsend stated that neither he nor the Department of Justice were ambitious to have any personal operation or control of censorship, but if it were effected, that the Department of Justice, particularly the FBI, would desire to receive the fruits of this service.

Since this information is background information, it is not believed it should be incorporated in the report of the survey.

Respectfully,
RECORDED & INDEXED

H. H. Clegg

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DEC 9 1941

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NHC:MS

November 28, 1941

THE DIRECTOR

Re: Censorship Survey

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In keeping with the request of the Attorney General, I talked with Mr. L. M. C. Smith of the Department. Mr. Smith inquired as to whether his memorandum for the Attorney General on November 14, 1941, concerning censorship had been observed, and I told him that it had been studied very carefully. He had the following observations to make:

1. When censorship is established it should cover international communications rather than domestic communications.

2. The Army or the Navy should not operate or control the censorship establishment.

3. The Post Office Department or the Office of Facts and Figures should not operate or control the censorship establishment.

4. The direction of censorship should not be under any existing agency, but the establishment should be a service agency for all others.

5. He believed that the intelligence service should first make a survey to see if there is a need for censorship before asking for it.

6. He believes legislation prepared should allow the President/^{flexibility} and the legislation should be in as general terms as possible.

7. He is open minded as to when censorship should apply but he is opposed to censorship unless it is demonstrated as being necessary and it might be more desirable to find out if there are specific places where censorship should be applied such as cablegrams, and censorship in those places will omit censorship from others.

8. As a matter of policy there are three alternatives. (1) To ask for censorship legislation. This would cause a division in Congress and among the people. (2) To request authority for limited surveillance powers which would not be censorship but would aid in maintaining security and would enable authorities to see what is being transmitted. (3) Perhaps a practical approach would be a Presidential Proclamation.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED & INDEXED

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NOV 29 1941

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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At present, the FCC is engaged in radio monitoring. The

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Since the present survey relates to the finding of facts concerning existing practices, and as Mr. Smith knows of no existing practices of censorship within his supervision, it is not believed that this report should be made a part of the survey report.

Respectfully,

H. H. Clegg

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 25, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

Perhaps you have not seen Mr. L.M.G.
Smith's attached memorandum on censorship,
to which is also attached the draft of the
proposed Censorship Bill, being three sep-
arate drafts of Section 1.

FRANCIS BIDDLE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

b7E

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

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OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 24, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In connection with the ~~the~~ censorship report, I
suggest that you have a talk with Mr. L.H.C.
Smith before reporting.

b7E

Francis Biddle
Attorney General.

Glegg should submit report but he
should interview Smith before &
see what ideas etc he may have.

H.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

November 28, 1941

TIME: 3:42 P.M.

CC-160

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒
Mr. Clegg ☒
Mr. Glavin ☒
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☐
Mr. Tracy ☐
Mr. Rosen ☐
Mr. Carson ☐
Mr. Coffey ☒
Mr. Hendon ☐
Mr. Holloman ☐
Mr. Quinn Tamm ☐
Mr. Harbo ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Tour Room ☐
Mr. Nease ☐
Miss Gandy ☐
Miss Gandy ☐

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

At this time Mr. Foxworth called from New York City and asked that the following memorandum be written up for your attention:

" The Navy has rented the 8th and 9th floors of the International Telephone and Telegraph Building at 67 Broad Street, New York City, using it for the purpose of censoring overseas communications when they are so ordered by the President. They have had this space to my knowledge over a year. All of their facilities are considered highly confidential. As a matter of fact they have special elevators which lead to their quarters in the building. In the lunchroom for the employees of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company there has been set aside a special section with a large screen over it which is used by the Navy employees. They are reported not to have a full and complete force as yet, although they are equipped to proceed immediately with the censorship of cables in the event of an emergency.

For the past two years the Navy has run a school of instructions concerning censorship of communications, at which school there have been about twenty naval officers in attendance each month. There have been approximately twenty-four such schools in which approximately 480 officers have received this training.

All of the communication companies - that is, Western Union, RCA, Postal Telegraph, etc. - have had their facilities "piped in" to the Navy quarters in the I T & T Building. Admiral Cook is in charge of this operation and Commander Bagley is his assistant. At the present time Commander Bagley together with an officer named Rock are in [] studying the methods of censorship in effect in that country. This fact is also supposed to be highly confidential. b7D

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62-62736-38
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NOV 29 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Navy has had in attendance at certain other schools which they have conducted various business men - such as bankers, coffee men, liner merchants, etc. - in order that these men would be familiar with Navy procedure in the event of an emergency or if war were declared. In other words, the Navy personnel is going to perform the actual censorship, but then when the communication is

censored []

It will be the

b7E

b7E

I am also told that such establishments are contemplated at other points - such as San Francisco, New Orleans and Los Angeles - New York to be the main point of the setup, and the chief censor to be located in Washington, D. C. It is said that this operation is all set up so that it can be started at a minute's notice.

I have also been advised by a Captain of the Waterfront Detail of the Naval Intelligence that the censorship division of ONI now has approximately 1,000 employees. It is my personal feeling that this estimate may be a little high. They are not in actual operation, it is said, although they are ready to commence at any time. The facilities which have been installed have not been connected up, but it is just a question of throwing a key and making the connections within a few minutes time.

They also have at least one man down at the RCA every day to make certain checks on cables. I do not know the exact nature of these checks and have been unable to determine just exactly what checks are made.

They are also presently taking applications from people in order to enlarge their censorship group.

Captain McFall of Naval Intelligence has told me that he would be able to help me, if I ever ran across a problem of getting a particular message from the RCA Communications Company. [redacted]

b7E

[redacted] at the present time. I was also told at one time by Captain McFall that the personnel for censorship was something over 400.

The Navy, as the Director is aware, had a radio station out on Long Island, [redacted] - particularly RCA. This was a sending station as well. They have operated this station for several years.

So far as the Army is concerned, it cannot be determined that they have done anything. The story is that the Army is to cover all cross-country communications but that they have made no provisions to take care of this censorship. "

Memo for the Director -3-

Mr. Foxworth stated that this was all of the information he had been able to obtain discreetly and without making any direct inquiries; that part of this information came directly from the Navy and the remainder came from the Vice President of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company, in which building the Navy have their offices.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. A. Johnson".

D. A. Johnson

82

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



RHC: LH

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
November 28, 1941

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

While talking to Captain Fenn of the Navy Department about censorship, he at no time pledged us to secrecy and at no time called his conversation confidential other than as implied by our initial statements that our survey was a confidential one. Captain Fenn has been working for some years in preparation for national censorship, primarily of radio, wireless and cable communications. It is he who undoubtedly expects to be made Chief of the Radio and Cable Section of Censorship, if in fact he does not feel he will be made the Director of Censorship. He has worked out rather detailed plans.

To show his lack of temperamental suitability and to show his prejudiced viewpoint, he stated a liaison officer was designated by him to contact Treasury Department officials in building up plans for censorship. Treasury officials saw that here was a thing of value and a rather large undertaking. They became very interested. The Jewish underlings saw an opportunity to gain information and to become a part of a rather large organization which would handle great masses of confidential information. They therefore wanted to get control of censorship. This view was shared by Secretary of the Treasury. Morgenthau and Secretary Morgenthau wrote a letter to Secretary Knox making certain suggestions and inquiries which Secretary Knox put in his pocket and did not make reply to.

The above facts are ^{not} being incorporated in the report as they were given without any restriction.

Respectfully,

H. H. Clegg

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&
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62-62736-39
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 DEC 9 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

In accordance with Mr. Tamm's request of November 26, 1941, I am enclosing herewith a copy of a draft of a censorship bill sent to the Attorney General and copies of accompanying memoranda.

Lawrence M. C. Smith,
Chief, Special Defense Unit.

By R. Keith Kane,
Assistant Chief.

Enclosures.

RECORDED
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62-39735-40
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DEC 9 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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b7E

THE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AR:AI

December 7, 1941

8:20 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

We have been requested by Mr. Berle,
through Mr. Warren, to take steps to immediately
request cable companies and telegraph companies
to receive all messages submitted by the named

[Redacted]

b7E

[Redacted]

Mr. Carson has been requested to place
this into effect immediately.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Respectfully,

A. Rosen
A. Rosen

62-62736-41
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 DEC 9 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

See that this is actually
accomplished.

H.

*mem. directed
DM L 12/7/41*

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(53) 53

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

0 Personship of cables

Copy - dc

December 9, 1941

JEH:NM

TIME: 10:34 AM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

MR. TAMM

MR. CLEGG

MR. LADD

At this time Colonel Lord, Assistant Director of the Economic Defense Board called me in regard to the Censorship program. The Colonel stated he is interested in this program and asked me if provision could be made to have the Economic Defense Board represented on the Censorship Committee.

I explained to Colonel Lord that the program I had inaugurated was done rather suddenly; that yesterday the President placed me in charged of all censorship matters for all of the government agencies and I had quickly convened officials from the Army, Navy, State Department, Post Office and Treasury for consultation. I told Colonel Lord that yesterday I advised these representatives officials that our initial meeting was, of course, only a temporary structure; that the matter of censorship was not one strictly military but more economic and I intended to expand the advisory staff.

I advised Colonel Lord that the committee on organization for the censorship structure is presently meeting under the direction of Mr. Clegg and I would make certain that he contacted the Colonel to make arrangements to have either Colonel Lord or his representative present at the next committee meeting.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DEC 9 1941

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Censorship of radio

CH-25

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JEH:JRC

December 7, 1941

TIME: 9:09 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

Colonel Donovan called me in regard to the short-wave business which has its effect both in South America and this country. Colonel Donovan stated he thought we should set an example because we have all our lines set up, for instance if we wished to send a message to all these broadcasting companies it could be controlled through his office.

Colonel Donovan stated he had, at the suggestion of the President and with the approval of the State Department, thought the FBI should have a man seeing just what happens. He said they were setting up a double shift and said if we could have a man there at 10:00 am tomorrow morning they could explain to our man how the whole thing works. I told him we would have a man come to his office at that time.

Colonel Donovan stated that after we see the set up we may wish to use it at times.

I informed Colonel Donovan that I had talked with Honolulu; they have done considerable damage in four raids; one battleship has been sunk and two others afire and believed sinking; military objectives have been bombed but not the city; there is an unconfirmed rumor that the water supply in Honolulu has been poisoned; parachutists were landed but were caught; apparently our fleet did not know anything about how or when these men slipped through; the civilian population is acting fine and martial law has been proclaimed.

I gave Colonel Donovan a summary of [redacted] and showed him how helpful [redacted] has been but pointed out to him how long it took us to gain this permission. I also told him that people wanted to disregard the existing classification of aliens and wanted everyone arrested.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

b7E

b7E

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b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 6/26/82 BY

Comp II 376584

Copy - dc

December 3, 1941

JEH:DAJ

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In line with the instructions which I received at the committee meeting of last Tuesday I have prepared the attached memorandum covering the survey that has been made of all present activities and facilities in so far as it was possible to obtain information concerning them, together with a statement of the general purpose, functions, and recommendations pertaining to the project.

At the suggestion of the Postmaster General I am transmitting a copy of this report to you.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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W. J. P. if no file

Copy - dc

December 8, 1941

JEH:JRC

TIME: 11:54 AM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

MR. TAMM

MR. LADD

MR. CLEGG

I called Archibald MacLeish and asked him if he could come to my office at 3:00 pm this afternoon to discuss Censorship. I told him that the President has signed a measure designating me in charge of Censorship until a permanent structure can be set up.

b7E

I told Mr. MacLeish I have invited representatives of the Army, Navy, Treasury, and Post Office to attend this meeting and it would be a great help to me if he could attend.

Mr. MacLeish stated he would be delighted to attend.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DEC 9 1941

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ORIGINAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MCS:MK

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

DECEMBER 7, 1941

Transmit the following message to: ALL SPECIAL AGENTS IN CHARGE

ARRANGE IMMEDIATELY WITH ALL TELEPHONE COMPANIES YOUR DISTRICT TO DISCONTINUE ALL TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATIONS BY JAPANESE TO ANY POINT OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES, THIS TO INCLUDE COMMUNICATIONS WHETHER BY JAPANESE DIPLOMATIC OFFICIALS OR CIVILIANS. ALSO ARRANGE IMMEDIATELY WITH APPROPRIATE COMMUNICATION COMPANIES TO DISCONTINUE ALL OTHER JAPANESE COMMUNICATIONS OF ANY TYPE WHATSOEVER, INCLUDING TELEGRAM, CABLEGRAM, ETC., DESTINED TO ANY POINT OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES. IN LATTER CATEGORY, MESSAGES FILED BY MEMBERS JAPANESE EMBASSY OR JAPANESE CONSULATES MAY BE TRANSMITTED IF OFFICIAL FILING MESSAGE FILES SAME AS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION RELATING TO OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

HOOVER

CC WASHINGTON FIELD

RECORDED & INDEXED

12-7-41
86-6736-46
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
12 DEC 9 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECEIVED
FBI DIVISION

SENT VIA

M

Per

November 25, 1941

EAT:DMF

THE DIRECTOR

Mr. R. Keith Kane of La M. C. Smith's Office called stating he understands that the proposed Army and Navy Bill regarding censorship came up for discussion at a meeting of the Cabinet at which time the Attorney General made the suggestion that censorship involved policy questions relating to civilian branches of the government as well as the military, which should be considered. After a general discussion, the President appointed a committee consisting of the Attorney General, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of Navy, the Postmaster General, and Archibald MacLeish, Librarian of Congress, to consider the matter. Mr. Kane stated Mr. Smith was subsequently asked by the Attorney General to work out a revised bill in cooperation with Judge Townsend for the consideration of the above committee. This bill was framed and a memorandum was sent to the Attorney General by Smith in the light of conferences which Mr. Smith had with us, according to Mr. Kane, which memorandum pointed out the experience of [redacted] at cetera. Mr. Kane stated the new bill is worded so that the matter of delegating responsibility is left up to the President, not placed in the bill as is done in the Army and Navy bill.

b7E

b7D

In answer to his suggestion, I told Mr. Kane we would have a copy of the revised bill. He will keep us informed on developments.

Respectfully,

RECORDED

Edward A. Tamm

DEC 9 1941

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

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Copy - dc

December 8, 1941

JEH:JRC

TIME: 12:06 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

MR. TAMM

MR. LADD

MR. CLEGG

Captain Wilkinson called to advise me he has just talked to Admiral Clark and the reported second attack on the Island this Morning was a false alarm. Captain Wilkinson stated that if the Japanese came in for a second attack, we should certainly be able to sink a few of their airplane carriers.

b7E

Captain Wilkinson said he will attend the meeting at my office this afternoon at 3:00 pm to discuss Censorship.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	

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JSH:DAJ

December 9, 1941

TIME: 5:36 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD
MR. CLEGG

b7E

At this time I called Mr. Milo Perkins and told him that I was going to send over to him a tentative draft which was drawn up this afternoon concerning the basic principles and policies for censorship by Mr. Macleish, officials of the Army and Navy and myself. I told him that it was our intention for these principles to be sound and practical, yet not too extreme nor liberal. I said that I was very strongly in favor of taking into consideration the economic as well as the military aspect of the war, as I believed the war in the final analysis would be one of economics and propaganda. I told him that the [redacted] had shown that 60 per cent of the intercepts were economic and the balance were concerning military and intelligence. I asked Mr. Perkins to submit any suggestions or criticisms he might have concerning this draft because when it reached its final stages we desired that it be satisfactory to everyone concerned.

b7D

Mr. Perkins stated that he would have a Mr. Oppenheimer and Roy Lord of his board go over this draft thoroughly and submit their views concerning it. He asked that the plan be sent over the first thing in the morning.

Mr. Perkins desired to know just what the President's orders were concerning the censorship. I told him that I had been designated as temporary chairman of a committee to go into the problem immediately in an endeavor to coordinate the censorship; that we had explored all of the avenues in the Government to determine what had been done and what the needs of the various agencies were. I told him that we had also drafted a bill to establish a separate censorship agency to be headed by some competent civilian to be appointed by the President, which agency would commence immediately and have full control of the censorship work; that the present Army and Navy facilities would not be scrapped but would be utilized along with the rest of the program. I told him that this agency would be responsible direct to the President and not to any Governmental department. I also said that there was to be an advisory board composed of representatives from all of the interested agencies which would discuss the policies and procedure, but that the final decision would be left to the Director of Censorship.

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I told Mr. Perkins that the meeting yesterday had been called by me and that present were the Army, Navy, the FCC and others; that the meeting was called for the purpose of finding out what they had been doing and what was needed in regard to international communications. I said that I had found out there was great crossing of wires and confusion generally. I said that this was now straightened out and that for the time being any move made by any agency to censor material or intercept material would first be cleared through this office so that two people would not be doing the same thing.

I informed Mr. Perkins that our purpose in sending him this draft was so that we might arrive at the basic principles of censorship so that it might be a guide for the full structure when it is set up. I told him that in England the censorship had started out under military control and that the program had to be scrapped after about six months and put under a joint board; that I didn't want to see the same mistake made in this country.

Mr. Perkins stated that in connection with their economic warfare plans they had a very definite interest in the censorship project.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

December 9, 1941

TIME: 10:50 AM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. CLEGG
MR. LADD

At this time I received a call from Mr. Archibald MacLeish who advised me that he is of the opinion that the Attorney General, the Postmaster General and the Vice President are probably going to suggest an able civilian executive censor today. Mr. MacLeish asked me if I thought it advisable to possibly postpone any further work on our part, pending the appointment of the new censor.

I told Mr. MacLeish that I would be entirely willing to defer to his wishes in the matter but I thought that if we could get some sort of basic report into the hands of the new censor it would be helpful since it will probably be about two days before he can report for duty and if there was available for him some pioneer work it might influence him in his viewpoint.

I told Mr. MacLeish that I understood that the name being most seriously considered is Byron Price; that he is a very good man and I felt he would welcome any suggestions we would make. Mr. MacLeish said he appreciated my observations on this matter because he wanted to get my ideas before he took any action.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CH-25

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JEH:DAJ

December 9, 1941

TIME: 1:25 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

MR. Tamm

MR. Ladd

MR. Clegg

At this time I talked to Mr. John B. Blandford, Assistant Director of the Budget. He stated that he had just received from the Navy Department a plan which had been prepared by them for the censorship of all communications.

I told Mr. Blandford that the President had appointed me yesterday to be the temporary director of censorship; that in this capacity I had called a meeting yesterday and that at this meeting a plan was formulated for the approval of the President. I stated that legislation had been drawn up and that the Attorney General was going to have it introduced in Congress after obtaining approval from the White House. I said that this legislation provided for a civilian Director of Censorship, which was in line with the President's desires. I told him that this bill had been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, the Postmaster General and the Attorney General. I said that this bill would be passed in about two or three days. I said that this bill provides that the Director of Censorship will be appointed by the President and that in fact it was my understanding the man to head this organization was under consideration at the present time. I said that this afternoon there was going to be a meeting by members of the cabinet handling the censorship project, at which meeting the recommendations as worked out by my committee would be presented; that in view of this I was sure the plan he had was not the plan of the President. I stated that I did not think Secretary Knox was aware of the plan he had.

I advised Mr. Blandford that he might wish to check with the Attorney General on this matter as he had been dealing with the President personally on the censorship project. Mr. Blandford said that he would call the Attorney General to see what he desired done with the plan submitted by the Navy Department.

Very truly yours,

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John Edgar Hoover
Director

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December 8, 1941

7:13 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

I talked to SAC Shivers in Honolulu at this time and told him about the cablegram I had sent him this afternoon concerning the manner in which he should give us information in regard to the situation in Hawaii. I told him that he should forward this information in the same manner as he had when referring to the SACs in Huntington and Oklahoma City. I advised him that he should wire us back by radio exactly what certain of these things will mean. Mr. Shivers stated he would do this.

b7E

SAC Shivers informed me that conditions in Honolulu were generally good at the present time.

Mr. Shivers stated that he was just then receiving by radio from San Diego the names of certain Japanese that should be taken into custody and that this might be very well dispensed with as martial law had been proclaimed and General Short, who is the military governor, believed the Bureau had picked up a sufficient number of Japanese at the present time, the General basing his opinion on the fact that absolutely no sabotage had been committed and no disturbances had been found on the part of the civilian population. I told Mr. Shivers that this procedure was being followed because the Department did not want us to miss anyone, but that we would leave this matter entirely to his discretion. He asked if I did not want to have this radio message stopped as it appeared it would tie up the radio all afternoon. I told him that I would give orders for San Diego to discontinue sending the list and that he should also reply to San Diego instructing them to stop sending.

Mr. Shivers stated that he had received a wire from the Attorney General instructing him to contact the United States Attorney and tell him that he should keep an adequate staff on hand, keep the office open twenty-four hours a day, and to give full cooperation to the FBI and the Immigration and Naturalization Service in carrying out the instructions which have been given to all other United States Attorneys.

Mr. Shivers informed me that the police were guarding the Japanese Consulate maintaining at least four men on duty at all times. He desired to know if he should take any part in this so long as the police were satisfactorily handling the situation. I told him that he did not have the men to do the

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actual guard duty; that arrangements should be made with the local authorities to handle this. Mr. Shivers advised that he had done this as soon as the trouble broke.

Mr. Shivers advised that General Short has ordered the apprehension of all German and Italian aliens in the Hawaiian Islands and that the United States Attorney had authorized complaints against all citizens of German or Italian extraction on whom we have submitted custodial detention letters. He said that the complaints had not as yet been issued so he did not know what complaints and violations these persons would be charged with. I told Mr. Shivers that I had just sent an order to the entire service to arrest all German and Italian alien enemies; that we would take into custody all of these persons who are on the A, B and C lists, and that I am asking the field offices to advise us of any others they believe should be taken into custody. I advised SAC Shivers that what should be done with United States citizens of German or Italian extraction had not as yet been decided by the Attorney General.

I told Mr. Shivers that in Hawaii, under martial law, he was in a position to get things accomplished rapidly but that he should let the U. S. Attorney "carry the ball" in this regard. SAC Shivers stated that he had just talked to the U. S. Attorney and is going to receive from him a letter authorizing him to pick up all of the German and Italian citizens on whom he has custodial detention letters. Mr. Shivers stated that no one has given the U. S. Attorney authority to do this. I told Mr. Shivers to ask the U. S. Attorney if he has been cleared on this by the Attorney General; if he has - and of course I knew that he hadn't - he should go forward with it, but that if he hadn't been cleared, Mr. Shivers should suggest to him that he get clearance. SAC Shivers stated that the U. S. Attorney was talking to the Attorney General's Office at that time. I told Mr. Shivers to contact the U. S. Attorney after he had finished that call and get a memorandum in writing from him before going ahead on such a project.

Mr. Shivers stated that General Short had ordered that the Germans and Italians be taken into custody by the Army with the assistance of the FBI. I told him that under martial law the Commanding General could do this but that the matter of picking up United States citizens was another thing and that the U. S. Attorney should not proceed without the authorization of the Attorney General. I said that of course if the Commanding General wanted them to be taken, the Army could go ahead and we would do anything the Army desired. I told Mr. Shivers that this action could be taken by the Commanding General under martial law or by the U. S. Attorney under authorization from the Attorney General, but that the Commanding General could not order that criminal complaints be filed against these people and that the U. S. Attorney should get some authority on this point.

SAC Shivers went on to describe the project, mentioning his letter on German and Italian custodial detention, stating that he was proceeding immediately to pick up all of the people shown in the plan incorporated in his letter and that he is doing this at the direction of the Commanding General. I warned Shivers to be sure that he had the authorization to do this; that he had the orders of the Commanding General, inasmuch as he was working under different regulations than on the mainland. Mr. Shivers stated he was also proceeding to eventually take into custody all citizens of German and Italian extraction on whom custodial detention warrants had been issued at the direction of the Commanding General. I questioned Mr. Shivers on this point stating that no warrants had been issued for these people under the custodial detention project, that they had merely been classified; and that if the Commanding General wanted these people picked up he must take the responsibility. I told Mr. Shivers that if the General orders this done we will assist. I mentioned to Shivers that on the mainland there was no law that would permit us to arrest a U. S. Citizen except on a criminal complaint and that therefore we must confine our arrests here to alien enemies, that some decision must be made by the Department before we can touch American citizens, even though they may be worse than the alien enemies. I told Mr. Shivers that of course a criminal complaint could be filed by the U. S. Attorney, but inasmuch as martial law has been declared on the Islands, the Commanding General was all supreme and can order as he sees fit and take the responsibility, that we want to give the General every assistance we can, assuming that he has taken the proper responsibility for the action.

Mr. Shivers stated that the G-2 officer was in the office now and had just informed him that the Commanding General had ordered these citizens picked up. I told Shivers to ask the G-2 office for written confirmation of these verbal orders within twenty-four hours so that our record will be clear and we will be protected here in the event anyone here begins to complain about arresting citizens. ~~I also asked Mr. Shivers to let us know by~~ morning just how many people were picked up, classed accordingly as aliens or citizens, so that we might give this information to the Attorney General by the time he gets to his office. Mr. Shivers stated that there were a total of 134 people on all of the islands to be picked up. I asked him to wire us as to exactly how many were taken.

In regard to censorship I informed Mr. Shivers that the President had today designated me to act as censor for the time being on the coordination of censorship matters for all Departments concerned until a Director of Censorship is appointed by the President. I told Mr. Shivers that this was under way and in good shape but of course the program decided upon here would not be applicable to the Islands because of the martial law situation there.

Mr. Shivers stated that in regard to the apprehension

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-4-
of the enemy alien Japanese he has already picked up on all of the islands approximately 302 people. I asked him to send us a wire in the morning giving us the figures at that time so that we will have a complete record of Japanese aliens, Japanese American citizens, German and Italian aliens and U. S. citizens of German and Italian extraction who have been picked up, divided as to alien and citizen, so that we can incorporate it into our report to the Department in the morning.

Mr. Shivers advised that they had a slight raid this morning with no damage done, and that nothing else had happened since that time.

Mr. Shivers asked that some one here do him the favor of calling his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Medlin, Warren 7296, in Atlanta, Georgia. I told him that we had already taken care of this for him and that they were very happy to hear from him.

Mr. Shivers then asked about Mr. Gurnea. I advised him that Mr. Gurnea was presently on the West Coast and has reservations on the first clipper out, however, we don't know if the clippers will be allowed to fly, but that Mr. Gurnea will be aboard the first plane out. Mr. Shivers said he had everything under control out there. I told him he had done a fine job and to keep us advised of all developments out there.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒
Mr. Clegg ☒
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____
Miss Gandy _____

HUC:BG

December 8, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

There is attached hereto a suggested program
for action in connection with censorship problems during
the formative period.

Respectfully,

Clyde Tolson
Clyde Tolson

E. A. Tamm
E. A. Tamm

H. H. Clegg
H. H. Clegg

*I need it & have
told Clegg to in-
corporate most
of it in memo to
A.G.
H.*

ENCLO. 5 Attachment

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-62736-53
10 III

HHG:GEG

CENSORSHIP

1. It is recommended that legislation and authorization for Censorship be sought at this time.
2. It is recommended that a Director of Censorship be promptly designated.
3. It is recommended that an Interdepartmental Advisory Board be designated now to serve as consultants and advisors in Censorship planning and any censorship program which is inaugurated. This Interdepartmental Advisory Board would be made up of one representative from each of the following departments and agencies of Government:

State Department
 Treasury Department
 War Department
 Justice Department
 Post Office Department
 Navy Department
 Commerce Department
 Federal Communications Commission
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Foreign Funds Control
 United States Maritime Commission
 Military Intelligence
 Naval Intelligence
 Library of Congress
 Export Control
 Economic Warfare establishment
 Coordinator of Information
 Office of Facts and Figures

and any other Government agency which it is believed would be served by or could be useful to the Censorship organization.

Mr. Tolson

Mr. E. A. Tamm

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Foxworth

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Carson

Mr. Drayton

Mr. Quinn Tamm

Mr. Nease

Mr. Tracy

Miss Gandy

This Interdepartmental Advisory Board should begin functioning promptly in the planning program.

4. The following general policies are recommended:

1. Censorship should apply to international communications, with authority for expansion given to the President. International communications should include not only communications of a strictly international character but also communications between ship and ship; between ship and shore; between continental United States and its possessions and Territories; and between

- 2 -

one possession or Territory and another possession or Territory of the United States.

B. There should be no restrictions or limitations placed upon the President in selecting the Director of Censorship or any of the assistants or any of the subordinate personnel of the Censorship organization.

C. The Director of Censorship and the Censorship organization should be under no existing Governmental agency and should be free from the control of the Military, Naval or any existing civilian establishments inasmuch as many Government departments will be "customers" of the Censorship organization, and no customer should control the administration of the organization. Experience in England has proven particularly that it should be free from Military and Naval control.

D. The Interdepartmental Advisory Board should serve the purposes of coordination; will automatically establish a liaison relationship between Censorship and the various Federal agencies; will make, receive and analyze complaints and will make recommendations to the Director of Censorship and, when deemed necessary or advisable, to the President of the United States. This Advisory Board will have no power or control otherwise over the Censorship establishment, and any change in administration, organization, policy or personnel will be left exclusively with the Director of Censorship and with the President of the United States.

E. All censorship should be under the administrative and operational jurisdiction of the Director of Censorship. This includes censorship of the following types:

Postal Censorship
Telegraph, land - wire and radio
Telephone Censorship
Cable Censorship
Radiotelephony Censorship
Travelers Censorship
Air express Censorship
Freight Censorship

- 3 -

Express
Carrier Pigeon
 Communications to and from prisoners of war
 Radio broadcasts, except that the Federal
 Communications Commission should be delegated
 by the Director of Censorship with the opera-
 tional functions of censorship, surveilling,
 monitoring and patrolling of radio broadcasts,
 but the administrative control and powers of
 enforcement of instructions are to rest with
 the Director of Censorship. The Director
 of Censorship may obtain such assistance as
 necessary or desired from other existing agencies.
Illicit radio stations - The administrative
 control and powers of enforcement of restric-
 tions are to rest with the Director of Censor-
 ship who will designate the Federal Communica-
 tions Commission as an operational agency to
 patrol, monitor, surveill and censor communi-
 cations to and from illicit radio stations.
 Authority for monitoring and surveilling
 illicit radio stations which are at present
 within the functions of other Governmental
 agencies and establishments are to remain
 with and under the control of those agencies
 and establishments where necessary to complete
 their normal operations and investigative
 jurisdiction.

5. It is recommended that a representative from each of the principal news agencies, wire services, press syndicates and national radio broadcasting companies be designated to serve in an advisory capacity in establishing a voluntary newspaper and radio censorship. This group of representatives should confer with Military, Naval and intelligence agencies of the Government with a view to seeking advice and information as to the types of information which could and should, as a matter of policy, be permitted.

6. It is recommended that a representative from the War Department, Navy Department, Federal Communications Commission, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Office of Facts and Figures immediately meet to establish a tentative plan of organization for administrative and operational purposes. This plan will be in operation until the Censorship organization has been authorized and established.

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7. Immediately upon the designation of the Director of Censorship, there should be turned over to the Director of Censorship by all Governmental departments, agencies and establishments all plans, records, physical equipment, files, suggestions and other material and data prepared, maintained or otherwise existing which pertain to censorship planning or censorship programs. The Director of Censorship shall have the authority to utilize exclusively upon the censorship program any personnel considered desirable by him who have heretofore been engaged in any study or operation of a censorship program in any of the Government departments.

December 8, 1941

NHC:PM

THE DIRECTOR

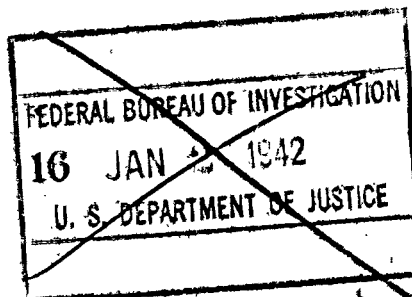
There is attached hereto a memorandum setting forth the minutes of the conference on censorship held in your office on the afternoon on December 8, 1941.

Respectfully,

H. H. Clegg

CC: Mr. Tamm

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒
Mr. Clegg ☒
Mr. Glavin ☒
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☒
Mr. Tracy ☒
Mr. Rosen ☐
Mr. Carson ☐
Mr. Coffey ☐
Mr. Hendon ☐
Mr. Holloman ☐
Mr. Quinn Tamm ☐
Mr. Nease ☐
Miss Gandy ☐



62-62736-53

2 JAN 2 1942

MINUTES OF CONFERENCE ON CENSORSHIP

A Conference called by Director John Edgar Hoover of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the subject of Censorship was held in Mr. Hoover's office in the Department of Justice Building beginning at 3:00 P. M., Monday, December 8, 1941. Those present were Director John Edgar Hoover, Chairman; Mr. Gordon of the State Department; Mr. Carson and Mr. Cairns of the Treasury Department; General Miles and Major Corderman of the Military Intelligence, War Department; Mr. Ironsides of the Post Office Department; Captain Wilkinson and Captain Fenn of the Office of Naval Intelligence, Navy Department; Mr. MacLeish of the Library of Congress and the Office of Facts and Figures; Mr. Jett and Mr. Harris of the Federal Communications Commission; and Mr. E. A. Tamm and Mr. Clegg of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Director Hoover's Announcements

1. Mr. Hoover announced that he had called this meeting by virtue of the authority of the directive of the President of the United States designating him to take charge of censorship until other plans are made.

2. Mr. Hoover referred to a survey which had been made by the FBI of present censorship practices and plans, which had for its purpose the determination of present censorship practices, the authority for such practices, the principles of selectivity employed and the needs of the various departments and agencies.

3. It was announced that it was not intended to scrap the existing facilities which should continue their operations until at least the permanent censorship organization has been established. There had been a great deal of valuable pioneering and planning work in various agencies, particularly in the War and Navy Departments, and there was no inclination on his part to displace with these plans and procedures at this time.

4. It was the expressed purpose of this Conference to establish basic principles and policies to effect a plan of organization for censorship practices and operations, and with this in view the following sub-committees were appointed:

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

(a) Sub-committee on Basic Principles and Policies

Mr. MacLeish, Chairman
 General Miles
 Captain Wilkinson
 Director Hoover

(b) Sub-committee on Organization

Mr. Clegg, Chairman
 Major Corderman
 Captain Fenn
 Mr. Jett

-2-

5. The members of this Conference would serve in an advisory capacity to Director Hoover for purposes of coordination, recommendations, prevention of over-lapping, and other matters of policy.

6. The following problems were presented for consideration:

- (a) The necessity of obtaining adequate coverage.
- (b) The necessity for identifying problems and devising programs to meet the problems.
- (c) The requirement of establishing basic policies.
- (d) The need for legislation and Executive Orders.
- (e) The necessity for censorship on the Mexican border.
- (f) The desirability of obtaining a voluntary type of cooperation from the press and radio broadcasting companies whereby representatives of the press and broadcasting companies would confer with Military, Naval, and Intelligence agencies to determine what is necessary and advisable to withhold from publication.
- (g) The desirability of obtaining the support of the public and of informing the public in so far as possible of those matters which properly should be made known publicly.
- (h) The necessity for reaching a basic understanding of all existing needs, and more particularly at this time the emergency needs not only of military and naval interest, but also of economic, intelligence, and other interests.

Mr. Hoover invited each of those present to make known any immediate problems and to make any statements or comments which they desired to make.

MR. CAIRNS: Mr. Cairns pointed out that under authority of the "Trading with the Enemy Act of 1917" there had been delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury the authority for censoring all forms of tangible communications except through the mails and the Secretary of the Treasury desired to retain this authority, particularly as an aid in handling problems of customs control. He further advised that there was delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury the right to examine all forms of communications with the enemy and with allies of the enemy by telegraph and radio and that the Secretary of the Treasury desired to delegate this authority.

Captain Wilkinson expressed the opinion that the new proposed legislation would likely supplant this authorization.

This matter was referred to the Sub-committee on Organization.

MR. IRONSIDES: Mr. Ironsides developed an inquiry that military censors were now functioning at designated key points.

He advised that the Post Office Department can furnish information as to the volume of mail transmitted internationally and also could furnish information about available space.

Mr. Ironsides inquired as to what mail was to be physically stopped and at what points; and in the event the censorship program is unable to function with sufficient rapidity, whether the Post Office Department would be able to obtain authority to move the mail out of censorship control.

Concerning Mr. Ironsides' inquiries, Major Gordonson advised that censorship involves control of the mails and delay in transmitting certain mail is implied in the effective operations of censorship.

Mr. Ironsides' questions and Major Gordonson's observations were referred to the Sub-committee on Organization for action.

MR. HARRIS:

Mr. Harris advised that Section 603 of the Federal Communications Act prohibited intercepting messages, which section the Conference might decide needed amending. Mr. Harris further advised that Section 606 of the Federal Communications Act, relating to the war powers of the President, does not go into the field of communications transmitted by common carrier.

Mr. Jett advised that these matters were being given study by the Defense Communications Board and a report could not be immediately forthcoming since the report had to first receive the approval of the Board. It was suggested that the Board be requested by Mr. Jett to expedite its action.

MR. JETT:

Mr. Jett advised the Conference of the operation by the Federal Communications Commission of 98 monitoring stations and he offered such services as these stations could render to the various organizations represented.

Mr. Jett inquired as to what action could be taken with reference to communications presently being filed by individuals in the United States for transmittal to Japan, Germany, and Italy by means of RLA. Mr. Gaston advised that the Secretary of the Treasury can delegate power for controlling such communications now.

This problem was referred to the Sub-committee on Organization.

CAPTAIN WILKINSON: Captain Wilkinson informed that the Attorney General had advised that the President has power by Executive Order to authorize cable and radio censorship and under this power the President had ordered this type of censorship by the Navy Department and this plan is now in operation.

CAPTAIN FEHN: Captain Fehn pointed out that the work of perfecting an organization will depend a great deal upon the policies established. Captain Fehn also stated that in the organizational problem, records would be necessary for prosecution, copy work would be necessary in instances in order to permit censors to refer to previous communications when the writer of the communications later becomes a suspect. He also discussed [REDACTED]

b7D

Captain Fehn indicated the difficulty in obtaining strict compliance with military and naval regulations by voluntary press censorship and this problem was referred to the Sub-committee on Principles and Policies.

MAJOR CORDERMAN: Major Corderman advised that the Secretary of War had today ordered a telephone and telegraph censorship on international communications along the Mexican border which orders were now in operation.

GENERAL HILES: General Hiles pointed out that in addition to the statement of Major Corderman the Army had installed its own practices of censorship with respect to communications to and from military personnel.

MR. GORDON: Mr. Gordon advised that he is informed that certain [REDACTED] and he felt that a prompt decision was necessary to see that the proper disposition was made of the problem which had arisen, particularly in the field of [REDACTED]

b7E

Recommendations

Director Hoover submitted the following recommendations which were referred to both the Sub-committee on Principles and Policies and to the Sub-committee on Organization:

1. It is recommended that legislation and authorization for Censorship be sought at this time.
2. It is recommended that a Director of Censorship be promptly designated.

-5-

3. It is recommended that an Interdepartmental Advisory Board be designated now to serve as consultants and advisors in censorship planning and any censorship program which is inaugurated. This Interdepartmental Advisory Board would be made up of one representative from each of the following departments and agencies of Government:

State Department
 Treasury Department
 War Department
 Justice Department
 Post Office Department
 Navy Department
 Commerce Department
 Federal Communications Commission
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Foreign Funds Control
 United States Maritime Commission
 Military Intelligence
 Naval Intelligence
 Library of Congress
 Export Control
 Economic Warfare Establishment
 Coordinator of Information
 Office of Facts and Figures

and any other Government agency which it is believed would be served by or could be useful to the Censorship organization.

This Interdepartmental Advisory Board should begin functioning promptly in the planning program.

4. The following general policies are recommended:

A. Censorship should apply to international communications, with authority for expansion given to the President. International communications should include not only communications of a strictly international character but also communications between ship and ship; between ship and shore; between continental United States and its possessions and Territories; and between one possession or Territory and another possession or Territory of the United States.

B. There should be no restrictions or limitations placed upon the President in selecting the Director of Censorship or any of the assistants or any of the subordinate personnel of the Censorship organization.

C. The Director of Censorship and the Censorship organization should be under no existing Governmental agency and should be free from the control of the Military Naval or any existing civilian establishments inasmuch as

-6-

many Government departments will be "customers" of the Censorship organization, and no customer should control the administration of the organization. Experience in England has proven particularly that it should be free from Military and Naval control.

D. The Interdepartmental Advisory Board should serve the purposes of coordination; will automatically establish a liaison relationship between Censorship and the various Federal agencies; will make, receive and analyze complaints and will make recommendations to the Director of Censorship and when deemed necessary or advisable, to the President of the United States. This Advisory Board will have no power otherwise over the Censorship establishment, and any change in administration, organization, policy or personnel will be left exclusively with the Director of Censorship and with the President of the United States.

E. All censorship should be under the administrative and operational jurisdiction of the Director of Censorship. This includes censorship of the following types:

- Postal
- Telegraph, land-wire and radio
- Telephone
- Cable
- Radlotelephony
- Travelers
- Air express
- Freight
- Express
- Carrier Pigeon

Communications to and from prisoners of war

Radio broadcasts, except that the Federal Communications Commission should be delegated by the Director of Censorship with the operational functions of censorship, surveilling, monitoring and patrolling of radio broadcasts, but the administrative control and powers of enforcement of instructions are to rest with the Director of Censorship. The Director of Censorship may obtain such assistance as necessary or desired from other existing agencies.

Illicit radio stations - The administrative control and powers of enforcement of restrictions are to rest with the Director of Censorship who will designate the Federal Communications Commission as an operational agency to patrol, monitor, surveill and censor communications to and from illicit radio stations. Authority for monitoring and surveilling illicit radio stations

-7-

which are at present within the functions of other Governmental agencies and establishments are to remain with and under the control of those agencies and establishments where necessary to complete their normal operations and investigative jurisdiction.

5. It is recommended that a representative from each of the principal news agencies, wire services, press syndicates and national radio broadcasting companies be designated to serve in an advisory capacity in establishing a voluntary newspaper and radio censorship. This group of representatives should confer with Military, Naval and intelligence agencies of the Government with a view to seeking advice and information as to the types of information which could and should, as a matter of policy, be permitted.

6. It is recommended that a representative from the War Department, Navy Department, Federal Communications Commission, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Office of Facts and Figures immediately meet to establish a tentative plan of organization for administrative and operational purposes. This plan will be in operation until the Censorship organization has been authorized and established.

7. Immediately upon the designation of the Director of Censorship, there should be turned over to the Director of Censorship by all Governmental departments, agencies and establishments all plans, records, physical equipment, files, suggestions and other material and data prepared, maintained or otherwise existing which pertain to censorship planning or censorship programs. The Director of Censorship shall have the authority to utilize exclusively upon the censorship program any personnel considered desirable by him who have heretofore been engaged in any study or operation of a censorship program in any of the Government departments.

To the Sub-Committee
on Basic Principles
and Policies

1. Make recommendations on basic principles and policies to govern and control censorship administration and operations.
2. Make recommendations with a view to establishing, if desirable, a voluntary press and radio broadcasting censorship.

To the Sub-Committee
on Organization

1. Establish a plan of administrative organization of the headquarters establishment of a national censorship organization.
2. Make recommendation for the Secretary of the Treasury to delegate authority vested in him for censoring all forms of communications with the enemy and allies of the enemy by telegraph, telephone and radio.
3. Make recommendation as to what mail is to be physically stopped and where.
4. Make recommendation as to what procedure shall be followed if the censorship organization does not move with adequate speed and a large back-log of mail accumulates.
5. Make recommendations as to communications by RCA, cable, and radio which are being presented by individuals for dispatch from the United States to Japan, Germany, and Italy.

Note: Mr. Gaston advises that the Secretary of the Treasury can delegate power to control this type of communication.

6. Make a report on the availability of equipment and facilities and service functions that are presently available to be of assistance in censorship work.
7. Make a report on organization of present facilities for censorship.
8. Make a report on what is being done in the field of censorship and what is not being done with recommendations.

HHC:MS

December 10, 1941

RECORDED 2-12-11-54

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

There is attached hereto for your information a further report on the progress made yesterday in planning for censorship and in carrying on the current practices of censorship made necessary by the existing emergency.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

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December 9, 1941

U. S. CENSORSHIP

With further reference to the plans for and practices of censorship, there was a meeting this afternoon of the subcommittee appointed to establish basic policies and principles for censorship administration and organization. The tentative subjects of censorship of international communications were drafted for further consideration as follows:

International communications channels should be controlled for the following purposes:

1. Security - To stop all communications

- a. Disclosing information about the United States or allied forces, including shipping, or about the effect of the operations of enemy forces;
- b. Disclosing information about the production or supply of munitions, or the location or progress of war industry, or the location or condition of materials useful in such industries;
- c. Containing matter which, if circulated, might prejudice the policy of the United States, the prestige of the United States, or United States relations with other powers, or which might adversely affect the morale of any part of the population of the United States or of its allies;
- d. Containing matter of benefit economically or financially to the enemy or injurious to our economic or financial operations;
- e. Otherwise likely to assist the enemy or his allies.

2. Intelligence - To obtain information about

- a. Enemy naval, military and air forces and operations, including supplies, casualties and morale;
- b. Enemy political, economic and social status and conditions, including public opinion, internal, economic and social conditions and effect of United States and allied propaganda;
- c. Public opinion and general economic and social conditions in neutral countries, including enemy subversive activities and effects of enemy propaganda;

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62-62736-54

OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

- d. Generally to provide information concerning enemy and neutral trade, industry and finance useful in the application of economic pressure, or information which might be useful in the operation of our own economy.

This tentative draft has been submitted to various other interested governmental officials for comment and suggestions. This committee also agreed to the proviso that the American public was entitled to receive all information except that which, if disclosed, would give aid and comfort to the enemy.

The Subcommittee on Organization also met and enumerated the present practices of censorship which have been inaugurated since the Japanese began their war against the United States. There were also identified some of the existing problems yet to be solved. Included in such problems was the fact that it is now possible for radio announcers to be aliens. It was recommended that all aliens employed by broadcasting companies be fingerprinted and that all Axis aliens, including announcers, be investigated and their names checked against the files of the intelligence agencies.

It was further disclosed that there is no present censorship of domestic foreign language broadcasts. The Federal Communications Commission is now making spot checks of foreign language broadcasts but there is no censorship, or full control. It was recommended that inquiries be made to determine if there is legal authority for the Federal Communications Commission to require that Japanese language broadcasts be immediately discontinued. Other domestic foreign language broadcasts, it was felt, should be permitted to continue since they may in fact prove a definite asset in our National Defense effort, but a surveillance of these broadcasts by the Federal Communications Commission should be continued and perhaps expanded. If there were undesirable foreign language broadcasts, the policy should be to deal with each specific station rather than to abolish all foreign language broadcasts.

It was disclosed that the United States is now receiving directly from Germany on its own receivers news which it republishes to the press. The Federal Communications Commission has agreed to make a appropriate investigation to see if there is anything of a suspicious nature in connection with these transmissions.

Both of the subcommittees are continuing to meet to discover and analyze the problems with the view to making further progress in the tentative stages.

In the meantime instructions have been issued whereby all requests made of private communications companies for transmittal of international communications are to be first cleared through the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in order to develop a proper coordination and in order to exercise control over existing practices.

Instructions have been specifically issued for the continuation within the scope of military and naval necessity of present military and naval censorship operations, with the requirement that the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation be kept informed of these practices and any modifications as well as additional practices.

December 9, 1941

HHHC:LM

THE DIRECTOR

Colonel Lord, Assistant Director of the Economic Defense Board, could not be reached so I left information with his secretary at her request as follows: "Meeting of the Committee on Basic Principles and Policies this afternoon at 2:30 in Mr. Hoover's Office. Meeting of the subcommittee on organization at 8:00 P.M. tonight in my office."

The opinion was expressed that it was doubtful that Colonel Lord and his representative would be interested in these organizational discussions but he or his representative would be welcome at either committee meeting and he would definitely be informed when next the general committee met. It was explained that the committee of yesterday was called solely to consider and initiate organization of procedures.

Respectfully,

H. R. Clegg

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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62-62736-54

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

914 Johnston Building
Charlotte, North Carolina

December 8, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau teletype of December 7, 1941, to all Special Agents in Charge instructing that immediate arrangements be made with all telephone companies in each field division to discontinue all telephonic communications by Japanese to any point outside the continental United States and also to immediately arrange with the appropriate communication companies to discontinue all other Japanese communications of any type whatsoever, including cablegrams, telegrams, etc., destined to any point outside the United States.

Please be advised that the necessary action was taken in the Charlotte Field Division immediately upon receipt of Bureau teletype. In this connection, I talked with Mr. W. E. DUNCAN, Carolinas Manager, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, Charlotte, North Carolina, giving complete instructions as set forth in Bureau teletype, and he advised that immediate action would be taken by him to comply with these instructions. Mr. DUNCAN further advised that it was not possible to communicate to any point outside the continental United States from North and South Carolina without utilizing the lines of his company.

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I also talked with Mr. E. C. McBROOM, North and South Carolina Manager of Postal Telegraph Company, in Charlotte, North Carolina, and made similar arrangements with respect to his company. It was ascertained that the appropriate official of Western Union Telegraph Company to handle this is Mr. C. H. CARROLL, General Manager of southern division of Western Union, Atlanta, Georgia. I telephoned to Special Agent in Charge HAM-MACK of Atlanta, and he advised that the necessary arrangements with Mr. CARROLL affecting North and South Carolina and other southeastern states had already been made.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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EX-41

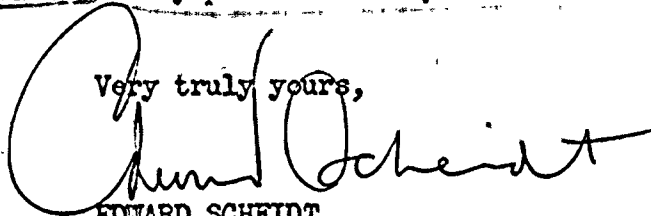
Director

-2-

December 8, 1941

In talking with the communications officials above, I also arranged for them to immediately notify this office in the event of any attempted telephonic or telegraphic communications by Japanese to any point outside the continental United States.

Very truly yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Edward Scheidt'.

EDWARD SCHEIDT
Special Agent in Charge

ES:oc

CC.— Atlanta
Savannah

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

December 9, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In connection with the development of censorship principles, policies and organization I desire to inquire if there is any authority which could serve as a guide for international and domestic censorship at this time and, if so, the extent and scope covered by the existing authorization. My attention has been called to the fact that probably the "Trading with the Enemy Act of 1917" might be applicable to the present emergency and might provide at least temporary authority for action. There may be other statutes of administrative decisions in existence which would grant some authority and any advice which your office could furnish on this subject would be deeply appreciated.

I have been informed today that the United Press maintains in the United States a radio receiving station and receives radio communications directly from their representatives in Germany and as a result the information received is published. I was also informed today that the Associated Press had made application to the Federal Communication Commission for a similar privilege and had indicated that the German government had suggested that they make this application to the Federal Communication Commission. It would be particularly interesting to know if this type of radio reception is covered by any existing regulation or statutory control.

A third problem which has arisen with respect to legal authority for censorship control is involved in the foreign language broadcasts in the Japanese language by the domestic radio stations regularly licensed and operated in the United States. I have found no disposition on the part of representatives of the various departments to discontinue foreign language broadcasts generally since they can serve as a definite asset in our national defense effort. However, the suggestion was made that it might be desirable to discontinue domestic broadcasts in the Japanese language and the question as to the legal authority for either the War or Navy Department or the Federal Communication Commission to order such broadcasts discontinued has arisen and I would appreciate your opinion.

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
 Director

75
 10-25
 TIME 10:00 a
 DATE 12-10-41
 BY [initials]

INDEXED

62-62731-56

DEC 10 1941

DEC 10 1941

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 12 10 41

180
55 JUN 25 1943

ENCLOSURE

56

56

JEL:HCB

December 9, 1941

Personal and Confidential

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

b7E

Radio

You will recall that this morning I mentioned the fact that I was concerned about the information that had gotten to the press that I had been temporarily designated to handle the censorship arrangements until the appointment of a permanent Director of Censorship. I have made a discreet check and find that this information was given to the press yesterday afternoon by Admiral Hepburn of the Navy Department. It, of course, may be of no moment, but it certainly ought to be possible to carry on Governmental activities that are stated to be confidential without its being given to the press, particularly by an officer of the Naval forces.

Respectfully

John Edgar Hoover
Director

DECLASSIFIED BY: [redacted]

ON 9-23-96

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

SENT FROM D. O.
DATE
DATE
SENT FROM
TIME 10:00
DATE 12-10-41
BY [signature]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-62736-57
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 10 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



HHC:LH

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

December 8, 1941

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Captain Fenn, Chief Cable Censor, Naval Intelligence,
called. He has a teletype from his censor in San Francisco
to this effect:

"FBI in Honolulu frequently using radio telephone
to FBI Washington for such messages as 'bombing raid
going on now.' Am not suppressing but suggest FBI
be cautioned to use discretion.

Offley"
(San Francisco censor)

Respectfully,

H. H. Clegg

Handwritten:
Tamm:
Note this carefully.
Get message & Shivers
to use "cover up" words
in talking to us.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-62736-58
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 DEC 10 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Director

-2-

December 8, 1941

A check of the JAPANESE in West Virginia revealed that there are four JAPANESE in the State who have been investigated and are not deemed dangerous. One of these is the daughter of one of the other JAPANESE and is United States Born. On December 8, 1941, however, it was learned that two of these individuals, FRANK YAMAMOTO and FRANK ICHIMIZU, employees of the ISLAND CROWN COAL COMPANY, Holden, West Virginia, on holidays, were expected to be released from their employment and the Bureau was advised that this Office thought that they should be taken into custody.

Immediate attention was given to the preparation of plans to take all Italian and German aliens on the Department A, B, C List and the Bureau's Custodial Detention Lists into custody if the occasion should arise. All law enforcement agencies having national defense and Selective Service cases pending were contacted telephonically and they pledged themselves to immediately conduct the investigations and submit reports. The Civilian Defense Courses for Police Officers are being highly publicized in this State and will be pushed with full vigor in order to obtain full attendance of representatives from every law enforcement agency so that police duties in war-time emergency may be properly performed.

All of the above matters except the contacting of all of the law enforcement agencies in connection with the police cases assigned to them, the pushing of the Civilian Defense Courses and the preparation to take into custody the Italian and German aliens was performed during the night of December 7, December 8, 1941. The response from the public, police organizations, transportation, communication and public service corporations, defense industries and the national defense and other organizations in this State was immediate and spontaneous and full cooperation was pledged immediately. No difficulties of any sort were encountered and not one dissenting voice has been heard objecting to the taking of definite action against the JAPANESE.

Very truly yours,

S/ R. J. Untraine
R. J. UNTRAINE
Special Agent in Charge

RJU:VCR

DEC 11 1941

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Huntington, West Virginia
December 8, 1941

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: JAPANESE SITUATION

b7E

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the Bureau's teletype instructions of the evening of December 7 and the morning of December 8, 1941.

All of the employees were immediately placed on a twenty-four hour duty basis and all of the Agents were made instantly available at the Office. All important national defense plants, communication, transportation and public utility facilities were warned to take every possible precaution with regard to espionage, sabotage and injurious fifth columnar activities. Numerous Police Departments and American Legion Commanders reported by telephone to this Office, pledging full cooperation and were advised to be on the lookout for espionage, sabotage and injurious fifth columnar activities. All leave was canceled. Inasmuch as a new switchboard and two additional telephones were recently installed, it is reported that the telephone and teletype equipment is sufficient. The United States Attorneys were immediately notified of the Attorney General's instructions to maintain their staff on a twenty-four hour basis. All commercial airlines were contacted and stated that they would cooperate in denying air travel to any Japanese individuals. In addition, they will notify this Office telephonically in the event any Japanese request transportation. Arrangements were made with all of the transportation companies in this district to stop all travel of Japanese individuals by train, bus or vessel. Representatives of the United Press and Associated Press promised to stop all press communications for Germany, France, Italy, Japan and Finland emanating from West Virginia. The officials of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, Western Union, and Postal Telegraph Companies for West Virginia pledged their full cooperation in discontinuing all telephonic communication by Japanese to any point outside the continental United States; and to discontinue all telegrams, cablegrams, etc., by Japanese destined for any persons outside the continental United States except official communications of members of the Japanese Embassies or Japanese Consulates.

62-136-59

RECORDED

INDEXED

1941

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Copy - dc

HHC:BG

December 10, 1941

PERSONAL AND STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Further reference is made to the report which I submitted to you covering the Survey of Censorship Practices and Plans. Since the submission of this report, additional and supplementary practices have been inaugurated, in which I felt you would be interested. There is attached hereto a memorandum listing these additional censorship practices.

b7E

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Attachment

RECORDED

INDEXED

12-6736-60

DEC 10 1941

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

CH-25
72

TEH:LAJ

December 10, 1941

Time 3:08 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. Tamm
MR. Ladd
MR. Clegg

b7E

I called the Attorney General this afternoon and advised him that I had seen the Postmaster General in regard to the censorship situation and that he was entirely satisfied with the procedure being following. What has happened, I told the Attorney General, was that Mr. MacLeish called a meeting of newspaper men and radio executives; that the Postmaster General was somewhat concerned about this and had talked to Stephen Early about it. I informed Mr. Clegg that he understood what had been done here and that I had outlined to him what steps had been taken. I said that I was having a complete summary prepared of the progress which has been made on the censorship, and was sending it over to the Postmaster General in the morning; that he plans to have the committee which will meet with him in the morning draft in a very brief form the censorship picture for the President. The Attorney General stated that he would have Charles Fahy attend this meeting, which will be held at 10 o'clock. I said that the Postmaster General felt that the present setup should continue as it is for about a week; that the President doesn't seem to be concerned about it; that the other agencies such as War and Navy do not seem to show any resentment; and that if the other agencies and bureaus did not resent it everything would be all right.

The Attorney General inquired as to whether anyone was attempting to cause any trouble. I told him that someone was not, but that there had been a number of organizations trying to influence the cabinet's actions. I told him that the Postmaster General was taking care of this angle.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover
Director

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 6:10
DATE 12/10/41
BY [Signature]

10 11 21 61

DEC 11 1941

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

53

[Signature]

914 Johnston Building
Charlotte, North Carolina
December 8, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau teletype to all Special Agents in Charge instructing that immediate steps be taken to stop all press communications to Japan, Germany, Italy, France, and Finland.

Please be advised that the necessary action to accomplish this in the Charlotte Field Division was immediately taken upon receipt of Bureau teletype. In this connection I talked with Mr. W. E. DUNCAN, Carolinas Manager, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, Charlotte, North Carolina, who advised that appropriate orders would be immediately issued to all telephone offices of his company in North and South Carolina. He further stated that it would be impossible for telephonic communications to be sent out from any point in North or South Carolina without the facilities of his company being utilized.

I also talked to Mr. E. C. MARBOON, North Carolina and South Carolina Manager of Postal Telegraph Company, Charlotte, North Carolina, making similar arrangements with him with respect to the Postal Telegraph system. It was ascertained that arrangements of this sort affecting Western Union should be made with Mr. C. H. CARROLL, General Manager, southeastern district of the Western Union Telegraph Company, Atlanta Georgia. I thereupon telephoned to the Atlanta Office, requesting immediate contact with Mr. CARROLL, and

RECEIVED & COPIED

12-11-41 62

Director

-2-

December 8, 1941

was advised by Special Agent in Charge HAMMACK that this had already been done with respect to North Carolina and South Carolina and to the southeastern states.

In talking to the agencies I also requested that they immediately notify this office of any attempted press communications to the countries mentioned and they advised that they would do so.

Very truly yours,

EDWARD SCHEIDT
Special Agent in Charge

ES:cc
Co. — Atlanta
Savannah

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York**

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

EFE/NTP

December 8, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: [redacted]
[redacted] NEW YORK CITY

b7E

ATTENTION OF MR. D. M. LADD

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith an additional group of [redacted] which are being transmitted to the Bureau for its immediate information and such attention as might be deemed appropriate.

It might be mentioned that we are having the above [redacted] where possible by the personnel of this Division and in the event any information appears therein which is believed to be of vital interest to the Bureau, same will be immediately telephonically transmitted to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

ENCL BEHIND FILE

Enclosures:

COPY RETAINED IN LABORATORY

Also following specimens:

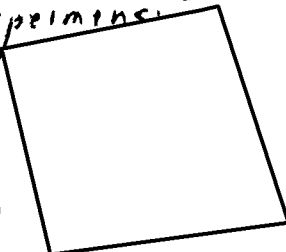
Q308 in

Q37 in

256

Q46A in

Q103 in



RECORDED

INDEXED

62-62736-63
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 DEC 11 1941
[Signatures and stamps]

b7E

*0 Center Trip of 12/10/41
in 1262
-12-10-41 RH:q*

December 19, 1941

SMM:BJR

~~62-62736-63~~
 62-62736-63 ✓
 Special Agent in Charge
 New York, New York

Re:

[Redacted]
 [Redacted] New

York City

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above-entitled matter and transmitted by your communication dated December 8, 1941.

b7E

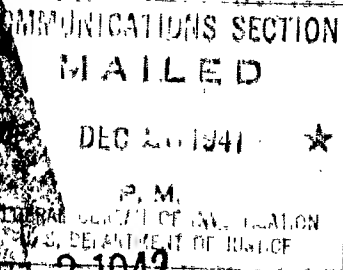
Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
 Director

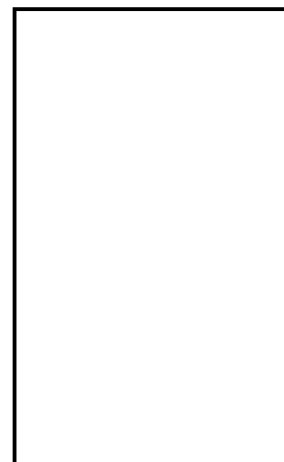
Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Foxworth _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Drayton _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Miss Gandy _____



2 JAN 13 1942

167



C

Handwritten notes and signatures:
 [Illegible signatures and initials]

December 9, 1941

**PERSONAL AND STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL DELIVERY**

Brigadier General Sherman Miles
 Assistant Chief of Staff
 G-2, War Department
 Washington, D. C.

Dear General Miles:

There is attached hereto for your information
 a memorandum recording the minutes of the conference on
 censorship problems held in my office on the afternoon
 of December 8, 1941.

I desire to express to you my appreciation for
 your interest and cooperation in attending this conference.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar

Enclosure

32177

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED

★ DEC 9 1941 ★

P. M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-62736-64
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 7 DEC 11 1941
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

53

December 9, 1941

~~PERSONAL AND STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Huntington Cairns
 Assistant General Counsel
 Treasury Department
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cairns:

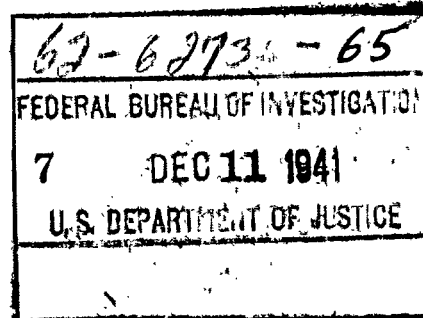
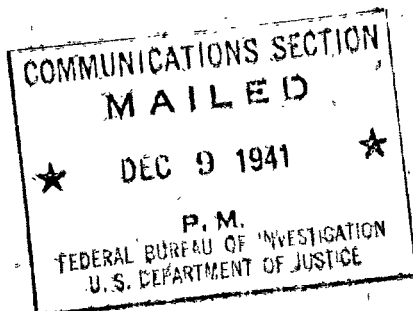
There is attached hereto for your information a memorandum recording the minutes of the conference on censorship problems held in my office on the afternoon of December 8, 1941.

I desire to express to you my appreciation for your interest and cooperation in attending this conference.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____



3

December 9, 1941

PERSONAL AND STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Inspector Fred Ironsides
Post Office Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Inspector Ironsides:

There is attached hereto for your information
a memorandum recording the minutes of the conference on
censorship problems held in my office on the afternoon
of December 8, 1941.

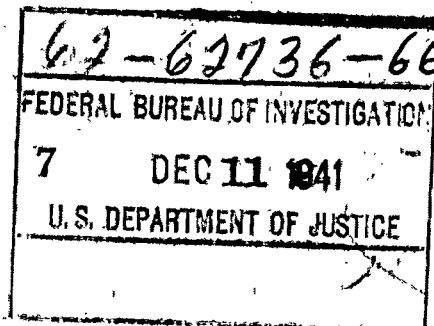
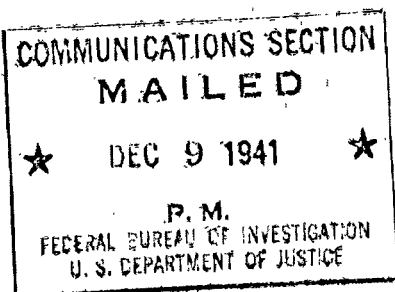
I desire to express to you my appreciation for
your interest and cooperation in attending this conference.

Sincerely yours,

J. EDGAR HOOVER

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



December 9, 1941

PERSONAL AND STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Captain T. S. Wilkinson
 Director of Naval Intelligence
 Navy Department
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Wilkinson:

There is attached hereto for your information a memorandum recording the minutes of the conference on censorship problems held in my office on the afternoon of December 8, 1941.

I desire to express to you my appreciation for your interest and cooperation in attending this conference.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

32181

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

RECEIVED
 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED
 DEC 9 1941
 P. M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-62736-69	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
7	DEC 11 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

53

December 9, 1941

~~PERSONAL AND STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. E. E. Jett
Chief Engineer
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Jett:

There is attached hereto for your information
a memorandum recording the minutes of the conference on
censorship problems held in my office on the afternoon
of December 8, 1941.

I desire to express to you my appreciation for
your interest and cooperation in attending this conference.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ DEC 9 1941 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-62736-68
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
7 DEC 11 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

3

JEH:JRC

December 11, 1941

DEC 11 9:00 AM

PERMANENT FILE MR. TOLSON
 MR. Tamm
 MR. Ladd
 MR. Clegg

I called the Postmaster General and told him I had sent him the report I had spoken to him about last night. Mr. Walker informed me he had received it, he now has both the Supplemental Report and the Censorship Report up to date.

Mr. Walker asked if I had any further suggestions to make, and I advised him I had incorporated everything in the last memorandum. I told him that in the memorandum sent to him this morning I summarized everything we have done since the President designated me to coordinate Censorship together with recommendations which I think should be considered at once.

Mr. Walker said as soon as he has the draft of the sub-committee, he will call a meeting at once. I told him I would be subject to his call.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
 Director

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

SENT FROM D. O.
 TIME 11:50
 DATE 12/11/41
 BY [signature]

62-6276-69

DEC 11 1941

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
December 8, 1941

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

LBN:DW

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Mr. DiBarbieri of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company called. He stated that one of our agents had contacted their New York Office and requested that the Telephone Company issue instructions prohibiting all Japanese telephones from making calls outside the continental limits of the United States. Mr. DiBarbieri stated that their New York Office of course put these instructions into effect but they asked him to confirm this through the Washington Headquarters.

I told him that such orders had gone out and that the advice received by his New York Headquarters was correct.

Respectfully,

L. B. Nichols

CH-22

RECORDED

INDEXED

EX-12

62-62736-70
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 DEC 11 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

17
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
7-10-1941

12-12

EFE:VA

New York, New York
December 10, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Re: NAVAL CENSORSHIP OF CABLES
IN NEW YORK CITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith copies of various cables, both in the English language, and in foreign languages, and also in code, which have been censored by Naval authorities in New York City on December 9, 1941.

As you were previously advised an appropriate check is being made of these cables by the New York office and in the event any matters of interest are found therein, the Bureau will be promptly advised.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

Enc.
AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

62-61716-71
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
7 DEC 11 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

UNRECORDED COPY TO INVEST. UNIT
ORIGINAL TO LABORATORY

2 JAN 11 1942
Coded Material
Lab.
Eng. & Tech. Div.
S. J. [unclear]
[unclear]



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

December 7, 1941

EPC:KSL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TRACY

Re: Radio Surveillance of



Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Drayton
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Your Room
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

b7E

Radio surveillance on a [redacted]
[redacted] was begun at 9:00 o'clock tonight by our own men.

I talked with Mr. Jett at the FCC on the telephone at 8:30 PM. I asked him to immediately arrange radio surveillance of [redacted]. He stated he would do so at once. I asked him to keep us advised of the result. He said he would. I told him that the State Department had requested the coverage.

b7E

He inquired about [redacted] and I told him we were already covering it. He asked me in what way we were covering it and I told him I could not go into detail at this minute but we were already covering it and only asking for assistance for the others mentioned.

Respectfully,

E. P. Coffey

RECORDED
INDEXED
skb

62-62736-72
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 DEC 11 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

copy to Mr. Rosen
12/7/41
AS

CH-20
38

EX-2

Ownership of cables

LBN:AKR

December 9, 1941

MR. TOLSON

Jackie Martin of the Chicago Sun called and wanted to make arrangements to take a photograph of the Director this afternoon in connection with his new job. I did not comment on this but told her the Director was exceptionally busy, that he was having conferences and it would just not be possible to make these arrangements.

She then stated if we could tell her when the Director went to the White House or when he would leave the building they would have a photographer available then. She further stated they could probably take his picture at Harvey's tonight. I suggested to her that they probably would not want to do it in this way.

I told her that we would be very glad to furnish a picture of the Director to them. If approved, the attached pictures will be furnished this afternoon.

Respectfully,

L. B. Nichols

RECORDED & INDEXED
DEC 11 1941

62-4736-73

DEC 11 1941

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

137

Attached photos FBI-11-2
11-10

b7E

ORIGINAL FILED IN

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

HHC:BG

December 10, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: CENSORSHIP

There is attached hereto a suggested draft of
a memorandum on censorship, for the Postmaster General.

Respectfully,

H. H. Clegg

Attachment

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

1 ENCL. 5

RECORDED

62-6736-74
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 DEC 11 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
[PAID] [PAID]

0 *Letter - Tip of Calkins & Radin*
Communications

in. acc
Censorship Memo
Prepare
Letter Postmaster General & als.
just 12/11/41

December 10, 1941

RE: CENSORSHIP

THE PRESENT CENSORSHIP SITUATION

Although there is no present legislation establishing broad censorship authority, certain practices of censoring, monitoring or surveilling communications do exist. The authority for these practices, in some instances, is based on administrative decision or a departmental interpretation of existing laws. In other instances, a specific right for examination, such as is granted to the Customs Service, exists. In other instances, military expediency has prompted the action taken.

As is expected, and because of the fact that existing practices are within different departments and government establishments and under varying types of authority, there is no uniform principle of selectivity applied in determining what communications will or will not be censored.

The most significant and valuable of the present practices are itemized as follows:

1. Military and Naval censorship of communications to and from Military and Naval personnel is in effect at bases outside of the United States, including bases leased from the [] Government.
2. Military and Naval Communications Sections have been confidentially engaged in the surveilling of various types of international radio communications which were believed might be of special significance to the Army and Navy.
3. The Federal Communications Commission is doing a general monitoring job in all unauthorized fields of radio communication, point-to-point radio communications and unauthorized broadcasts. In this connection the Federal Communications Commission is continually patrolling the ether to pick up any unauthorized transmittals or broadcasts.
4. The Federal Communications Commission conducts a monitoring of every word of incoming propaganda transmitted by radio.
5. The Federal Communications Commission is now covering some foreign point-to-point radio communications and is equipped to cover additional ones upon request.
6. The Federal Communications Commission is now doing general monitoring surveillances in the domestic broadcast field when pertinent to and in connection with foreign language broadcasts.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-62736-74
5 DEC 11 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

b7D

Censorship of Cable

Encl. 5

7. The Federal Communications Commission places a limitation on the use of radios on foreign ships in United States waters. They are not permitted to use their radios except for safety and similar purposes.

8. The Federal Communications Commission prohibits amateur radio stations and radio operators broadcasting to foreign countries.

9. The Federal Communications Commission controls, through its licensing power, radio operators and radio stations. This licensing power is naturally a strong influence, as the Commission can refuse to grant a license to an operator or a station and can revoke licenses already issued.

10. The Federal Communications Commission requires that a complete record be maintained of all communications by domestic telegraph, by international cable telegraph, by international radio telegraph, and all similar communications by radio from ship to shore and international communications. The carrier or transmittal companies are required to keep copies of communications and programs and require that these communications be maintained in a file. At present, these communications must be maintained for one year.

The only review of any of the communications and records, which has taken place, has been done for the purpose of determining the classification of communications, the speed of transmittal, the type of service, and usually these searches are made in connection with hearings. The Federal Communications Commission has not engaged in the practice of reviewing the messages as to context material.

11. The Federal Communications Commission is establishing an office in [] and is obtaining from the [] access to their files and records concerning European broadcasts.

b7D
b7E

12. The Post Office Department examines samples of suspected mail items, not including first class letters, but including prints, parcel post and papers, for the purpose of determining if the publication or the mailer is registered under the Registration Act or to determine if the matter can be classified as propaganda. An opinion is then obtained as to whether the matter is nonmailable, and suitable action taken.

13. The Post Office Department examines first class mail only when there is an indication that the contents are contraband and the addressee or addressor can be persuaded to open the communication in the presence of Postal authorities, or when there is adequate information to support the use of a search warrant in examining the mail.

14. The Post Office Department prohibits the transmission through the mails of publications which violate copyright laws.

15. The Post Office Department enforces the laws which provide penalties for transmission by mail of certain items, such as poisons; explosives; obscene matter; libelous, indecent and fictitious matter; and several other classifications prohibited specifically by statute.

16. The Post Office Department, at the request of the FBI, will hold suspected mail for 48 hours until a search warrant can be obtained to permit examination.

17. Customs inspection aids in controlling all incoming mail, except first class mail, and also aids in controlling communications which may be shipped internationally by freight or other means.

18. Freight and other exports are examined by Customs authorities to determine the existence of information of value to the American export control system, narcotics control and proclamations prohibiting the export of firearms.

19. It is a practice of Customs officials to search persons and their belongings when they are outgoing or incoming Nationals of Japan, Germany, Italy and the "blocked" nations.

20. All incoming vessels are searched by Customs authorities, and outgoing vessels are searched when a special reason exists.

21. The Liaison Section of the General Counsel's Office, Treasury Department, examines suspected literature to determine if it is propaganda or subversive literature. The information is reviewed, digested, analyzed to some extent, and referred to interested departments and agencies. This examination includes films, photographs, books and publications.

22. Foreign Funds Control receives from Customs and Post Office authorities and investigative agencies any incoming material from foreign countries which might contain securities or be of interest in controlling foreign funds.

23. The U. S. Maritime Commission endeavors to get the cooperation of newspapers so that they will cease publishing specific information concerning the movements of merchant ships and cargoes.

24. The Economic Defense Board receives intercepts, usually those discovered by [] censorship, through the State Department, the FBI, and from Military and Naval Intelligence, when the intercepted material relates to matters of economic defense.

25. The FBI maintains close liaison with [] censorship and receives all intercepts considered of value from an intelligence standpoint. A similar relationship exists with []

b7D

26. The FBI receives intercepts from the Federal Communications Commission and occasionally from the Coast Guard when the contents relate to matters of intelligence.

27. The FBI operates a radio monitoring station for handling intelligence work, including radio surveillance in cases of counterespionage and countersabotage, when the cases are within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI.

28. The Library of Congress has a current interest in all literature seized as propaganda. The information is for the files of the Library and for possible restricted dissemination to certain interested Government departments. [redacted] contributes to the total collection of such items. The Library performs a selection and examination function in connection with material recommended to the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs for dissemination in Latin America.

b7D

29. The State Department censors [redacted] both as to incoming and outgoing mail. There is a sampling of from 33 1/3 to 50 per cent of the contents of [redacted] to see that the contents comply with regulations which have been promulgated by the State Department to the effect that only that mail may be included which is for the purpose of promoting and protecting American interests.

b7E

30. The Immigration and Naturalization Service censors mail addressed to or from persons held under deportation processes.

31. The Immigration and Naturalization Service may require an alien departing from the United States to submit for official inspection all documents and articles and other things which are being removed from the United States upon, or in connection with, such person's departure.

32. The Federal Bureau of Prisons makes a one hundred per cent censorship of all incoming and outgoing mail of inmates incarcerated in their institutions. The Federal Bureau of Prisons also determines what magazines and books may be received and read by the inmates and also selects the radio programs which they may hear.

33. A spot check is made on all domestic foreign language broadcasts made in the United States. There are 200 stations using thirty-one foreign languages.

34. The FCC is constantly patrolling the ether along a systematic line looking for illegal radio stations.

→ 1.
Censorship Practices
Inaugurated Since the
Beginning of Hostilities.

- A. No messages of any kind are permitted to be dispatched to Japan and to Japanese occupied territory.
- B. The FBI has instructed that no telephone calls be permitted to be sent into or out of the Japanese embassy in Washington.

C. The FBI has requested telephone companies not to permit Japanese to telephone to any point outside of the continental United States.

D. The Navy Department is conducting censorship by surveillance of international communications by radio-telephone, radio-telegraph, and by cable.

E. The Navy is surveilling communications from all coastal harbor stations.

F. The Army is censoring telegraph and telephone communications between Mexico and the United States.

G. No international telegraphic communications are permitted to be delivered to the Japanese embassy or Japanese consulates in the United States.

H. The FCC has imposed radio silence on all commercial ships.

I. The FCC is monitoring all possible frequencies to intercept international communications between Mexico and Axis points.

J. A surveillance is being conducted of any possible radio transmittals from [redacted] and signals have already been detected emanating from [redacted]

b7E

K. An FCC inspector has established liaison with designated military posts so that upon military request the FCC will require radio facilities to close down temporarily until further instructions.

L. The Coordinator of Information Office listens to all international broadcasts through a central station in New York.

M. The FCC is maintaining a spot check on a station at Lima, Peru, which communicates with Tokyo and Berlin and another at Bogata, Colombia, which communicates with Rome and Berlin.

N. All amateur radio broadcasts have been discontinued except those approved by the FCC for use in national defense and the Office of Civilian Defense.

O. All commercial codes have been stopped. Later certain codes will be approved.

RECENT ACTION REGARDING CENSORSHIP

The President has designated Director John Edgar Hoover of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to take charge of Censorship until the President makes further plans. Director Hoover had sent representatives to [] where studies of various intelligence and known military defense problems, including censorship, were made over a period of several months in 1940 - 41. Director Hoover was requested by the President to make a survey of censorship practices and plans to determine what was being done, the authority for the action, the principles of selectivity, and the needs of Governmental agencies. The report has been submitted incorporating the findings of this survey.

b7D

Objectives of Censorship

With the view to establishing basic policies and principles to govern censorship, the following tentative objectives of censorship of international communications have been drafted:

International communications channels should be controlled for the following purposes:

1. Security - To stop all communications
 - a. Disclosing information about the United States or allied forces, including shipping, or about the effect of the operations of enemy forces;
 - b. Disclosing information about the production or supply of munitions, or the location or progress of war industry, or the location or condition of materials useful in such industries;
 - c. Containing matter which, if circulated, might prejudice the policy of the United States, the prestige of the United States, or United States relations with other powers, or which might adversely affect the morale of any part of the population of the United States or of its allies;
 - d. Containing matter of benefit economically or financially to the enemy or injurious to our economic or financial operations;
 - e. Otherwise likely to assist the enemy or his allies.

2. Intelligence - To obtain information about

- a. Enemy naval, military and air forces and operations, including supplies, casualties and morale;
- b. Enemy political, economic and social status and conditions, including public opinion, internal, economic and social conditions and effect of United States and allied propaganda.
- c. Public opinion and general economic and social conditions in neutral countries, including enemy subversive activities and effects of enemy propaganda;
- d. Generally to provide information concerning enemy and neutral trade, industry and finance useful in the application of economic pressure, or information which might be useful in the operation of our own economy.

Suggestions

Suggested Organization Plan for Seat
of Government Administration of
Censorship

The attached chart suggests the scheme of organization for the Seat of Government headquarters establishment for the administration and direction of Censorship activities.

It should be borne in mind that the scheme of organization relates to the administration of and establishment for the Censorship of International Communications. In the event the scope of Censorship is extended into the domestic field to include domestic postal, radio, and press censorship, it is proposed that domestic postal censorship would fall in the same division for administrative purposes as international postal censorship, and radio broadcasts of a domestic character would fall under the division of radio intelligence, and the censorship of the domestic press would be established on either a voluntary or involuntary basis as a separate division under the Assistant Director in charge of Censorship.

Coordination of Censorship Procedures in Effect

A great deal of attention has been given not only to the establishment of basic principles for censorship operations and for a scheme of organization for censorship administration, but even at this time an effort is being made to establish a clear coordination between the various Governmental agencies engaged in censorship practices. For example,

it has been necessary to issue instructions that before any request bearing on censorship is made to any private communications concern, the request must first be cleared through the Federal Bureau of Investigation for authorization in order to prevent overlapping contrary instructions and the antagonizing of cooperating agencies. It is necessary for example to make certain that the requests of one Department are not contrary to the desires of the Secretary of State, and that other requests will not interfere with proper military and naval operations. There is being established therefore a channeling of requests and procedures which will establish a routine that will be of benefit to the Censorship establishment when authorized.

Instructions have been issued permitting the continuation of all existing practices in the various departments and agencies of the Government with assurances that at least until the Censorship organization is established, there will be no scrapping of any of the work which is presently being carried on.

A great deal of effort is being spent at this time in further planning, establishing policies and principles, and developing suggested organizational methods which may be of value to a Director of Censorship.

~~SECRET~~
SUGGESTIONS

1. It is believed that the power granted the President for establishing censorship should be sufficiently broad to include both international, and when he deems necessary, domestic censorship.

2. It is suggested that there be created a Censorship Advisory Board to be made up of a representative with an alternate from governmental agencies which will be served by and useful to the Censorship Organization, including the following:

State Department
Treasury Department
War Department
Justice Department
Post Office Department
Navy Department
Commerce Department
Federal Communications Commission
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Foreign Funds Control
U. S. Maritime Commission
Military Intelligence
Naval Intelligence
Library of Congress
Coordinator of Information
Office of Government Reports
Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
Federal Loan Agency
Economic Defense Board

3. There should be no restrictions or limitations placed upon the President in selecting the Director of Censorship or any of the assistants or subordinate personnel.

4. The Director of Censorship and the Censorship Organization should be under no existing governmental agency and should be free from the control of the military, naval or any existing civilian establishment inasmuch as many government departments will be customers of the Organization, and no customer should control the administration of it. Experience in has proven particularly that it should be free from military and naval control. b7D

5. It is recommended that in the general Organization for Censorship, the various classifications of communications be grouped according to type and each type of censorship operation should be placed under a separate division.

JEH:RP

74 December 10, 1941

PERSONAL AND STRICTLY
CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In line with our conversation of today, I am enclosing herewith a copy of a summary memorandum on the status of the Censorship project.

I, of course, stand ready to aid in any further manner I can in this project.

Respectfully yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Enclosure

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 4:02 PM
DATE 12/11/41
BY [initials]

JEH:RP

December 19, 1941

P R E F A C E

In the attached memorandum, I have endeavored to set forth, in Pages One through Four, a summarization of the large report on the Censorship study which has been made and which has been previously submitted to you. This portion of the attached memorandum deals with the present practices of the various phases of Censorship which have been carried on by the various Governmental agencies and which we ascertained upon making the detailed study which you directed.

Commencing on Page Five, and continuing on Page Six of the attached memorandum, I have set forth the additional steps which have been taken in connection with Censorship since I was named to handle the Censorship arrangements on last Sunday night. Therefore, a reading of the attached memorandum from Pages One through Six will give a complete picture of what has actually been done and accomplished in the broad field of Censorship.

Commencing at the bottom of Page Six of the attached memorandum has been set forth the basic policies and principles suggested to govern the procedure of Censorship. These policies and principles are, of course, tentative and apply to international communications, as that is the only field that is now authorized by law to be covered under the program of Censorship. They have been drafted, however, with the view that they may be valuable for consideration in application to the permanent Censorship setup. **RECORDED & INDEXED**

Commencing at the bottom of Page Seven is set forth the suggested Censorship Organization, together with recommendations that you might wish to consider for the permanent structure of Censorship. A graphic chart is attached to the memorandum outlining this setup. This chart supersedes and takes the place of the two previous charts which have been submitted to you. The reason for this is that in the studies that have been made in the last several days, certain adjustments have been suggested in the setup, and the attached chart is the result of that study, joined in by representatives of the Army, Navy, the Federal Communications Board and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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See also 1270

62-62736-74
ENCLOSURE

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Removal to from

for Austin

4/6 Austin

62-62736-74

(Rev. 2-29-56)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

, 1956

TO:

Director

Mr. Nease, 5744

Mr. Tolson, 5744

~~Miss Gandy, 5633~~

Mr. Boardman, 5736

Mr. Holloman, 5633

Mr. Belmont, 1742

Mr. Mason, 5256

Records Section

Mr. Mohr, 5517

Pers. Records, 6631

Mr. Parsons, 7621

Reading Room, 5531

Mr. Rosen, 5706

Mail Room. 5533

Mr. Tamm, 4130 IB

Teletype, 5644

Mr. Sizoo, 1742

Code Room, 4642

Mechanical, B-114

Mr. Nichols, 5640

Supply Room, B-118

Mr. McGuire, 5642

Tour Room, 5226

Mr. Wick, 5634

Mr. DeLoach, 5636

Miss Lurz

Mr. Morgan, 5226

Miss Mathers

Miss Carter

Mr. Jones, 4236

Mrs. Faber

Mr. Leonard, 6222

Miss Loper

IB

Miss Cosart

Mr. Waikart. 7204

Mr. Eames. 7206

Mr. Wherry, 5537

See Me

For Your info

Note & return

For appropriate
action

L. B. Nichols

Room 5640, Ext. 691

62-62736-74

XIV. Censorship intercepted a letter from "Mom", address 320 N. S., Shelton, Washington, to Mr. Tom D. Fraser, Far West Cannery, Wrangel, Alaska, wherein the writer told her son that the FBI was looking for him for draft evasion, but she had not told the Agents where he was.

This information was forwarded to the Juneau Field Office, but an investigation by that office revealed that Fraser was not delinquent with his Draft Board and was in good standing. No further investigation was conducted.

XIII. On November 4, 1942, the Bureau received submission slip SE-5580-42 from the Office of Censorship. This submission slip is made up from a letter written by Mrs. Loyd Conner, Gholson, Mississippi, to Orian W. Taylor, 8th Battery, Company B, Dutch Harbor, Alaska.

Relative to this submission slip the censor comments that the writer tells of three draftees in Gholson, Mississippi who were possibly released through bribery. An excerpt from this letter is quoted on the submission slip as follows:

"This week Edward Thomas, Andrew Jones, Lesley Charlton, all of this community, got their call and lots of others around, but they went to Macon and paid twenty-five cents because they had a baby, and got off. That's not fair, says me."

The above noted submission slip is part of a backlog which is presently being routed to the appropriate supervisor for whatever action he deems advisable.

HHC:BG

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

DECEMBER 10, 1941

Transmit the following message to:

MR. BOIES HART
VICE PRESIDENT
THE NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

CONCERNING YOUR TELEGRAM REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TEST WORD IN
MESSAGES FROM MANILA. NAVY DEPARTMENT, IN CONTROL OF SUCH COMMUNICATIONS,
IS COMMUNICATING WITH THEIR MANILA AND NEW YORK OFFICES TO PERMIT USE
OF SUCH WORDS WHEN SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION IS MADE. INSTRUCTIONS TO
NEW YORK FROM NAVY DEPARTMENT WERE SENT TO ADMIRAL COOK, SIXTY-SEVEN
BROAD STREET, WITH WHOM YOU MAY DESIRE TO CONFER.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

INITIALED IN
DIRECTOR'S OFFICERECORDED
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
4	DEC 11 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

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MR. BOIES HART

VICE PRESIDENT

THE NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK

NEW YORK NEW YORK

CONCERNING YOUR TELEGRAM REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TEST WORD IN
MESSAGES FROM MANILA. NAVY DEPARTMENT, IN CONTROL OF SUCH COMMUNI-
CATIONS , IS COMMUNICATING WITH THEIR MANILA AND NEW YORK OFFICES TO
PERMIT USE OF SUCH WORDS WHEN SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION IS MADE. IN-
STRUCTIONS OT XXXX TO NEW YORK FROM NAVY DEPARTMENT WERE SENT TO
ADMIRAL COOK, SIXTY-SEVEN BROAD STREET, WITH WHOM YOU MAY DESIRE TO
CONFER.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER

DIRECTOR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GOB:MBB

November 27, 1941

MR. LADD

On the above date, you requested that I contact the following agencies for information with reference to the plans the agencies were making in connection with censorship in wartime:

1. Interior Department - Territories and Insular Possessions, Alaska Division.
2. Commerce Department - Foreign and Domestic Commerce Division and the Information Service.
3. Labor Department - International Relations Section and the Figures and Statistics Section.

I contacted Mr. Gordon who is the Chief of the Alaska Division of the Territories and Insular Possessions Bureau of the Interior Department. Mr. Gordon advised that he knew nothing about any such plans being made in his Division but would attempt to secure further information in the Interior Department and would call the writer on the morning of November 28, 1941.

Mr. Robert L. Bell who is the head of the Investigating Section of the Personnel Division of the Labor Department advised that the Department of Labor contained no such Sections as the International Relations Section and the Figures and Statistics Section. The writer indicated to Mr. Bell the reason for his interest in these Sections and Mr. Bell advised that he would attempt to determine if any Sections by similar names were making censorship plans. He called the writer later and stated that

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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DEC 10 1941

INITIALS OF FIVE ORIGINAL

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ORIGINAL FILED IN

Memorandum for
Mr. Ladd

Page 2

he had contacted the Director of Information, a Mr. Fitzgerald, and the Industrial Relations Section without securing information of the nature requested. He suggested that the writer contact Miss Mary Ladame who is Special Assistant to Mrs. Perkins and who is an official in the International Labor Office of which Mrs. Perkins is President.

Miss Ladame stated that she personally believed that if any project were underway in the Department of Labor regarding censorship, she would know it and she was quite sure that the International Labor Office was undertaking no such activities. Miss Ladame stated that she would attempt to secure further information in the Department of Labor and would call the writer early on the morning of November 28, 1941.

The writer contacted Mr. Grovesner M. Jones, the Assistant Director of the Foreign and Domestic Commerce Division of the Department of Commerce. Mr. Jones advised that the Department of Commerce was interested in censorship only as it affects trade and gave as an example of this the slow-up of correspondence by the [REDACTED] b7D He stated that he did not know of any further activities undertaken by the Department of Commerce. He referred the writer to Mr. Schnellbacher who is the Chief of the Commercial Intelligence Division.

Mr. Schnellbacher stated that early this year Commander Padgett of the Navy had asked the Department of Commerce to put the staffs of local Department of Commerce offices at the Navy's disposal. He stated that the reason for the Navy's request was that over a period of years the offices of the Department of Commerce in coast cities of the U. S. had built up considerable files of information concerning exporters and importers and also had about 10,000 detailed statements which were taken from exporters by the Department of Commerce. The offices of the Department of Commerce in New York, Philadelphia, Seattle, San Francisco, and New Orleans have been instructed to cooperate fully with the Navy. Mr. Schnellbacher advised that when the information in the local offices was made available to the Navy approximately 90% of export correspondence would be accounted for and thereby expedited and only about 10% would be suspected. He stated that he knew of no other censorship activities of the Department of Commerce and did not believe it would engage in any because the attitude of the Department of Commerce was that it did not want to be a participant in the program in a regulatory sense.

Memorandum for
Mr. Ladd

Page 3

I will recontact Miss Ladame, Mr. Gordon, and also will call Mr. Garrett of the Bureau of Information of the Department of Commerce who was not available today.

Respectfully,

G. C. Burton

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

Grand Rapids, Michigan
December 9, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATIONS
BY JAPANESE.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your teletype of December 7, 1941, regarding long-distance telephone calls, telegrams and cablegrams by Japanese outside of Continental United States.

MR. CHAD RITCHIE, General Manager, Michigan Bell Telephone Company, advised that all tolls made through Michigan for the Western Division, clear through Grand Rapids or Menominee, both offices being under his jurisdiction. He informed he would immediately take necessary steps to see that all telephonic communications by Japanese to points outside of the Continental United States would be discontinued, and subsequently advised at 10 p.m. on December 7, 1941 that such instructions had been put into effect.

MR. H. R. CHRISTIANSEN, Muskegon Associated Telephone Company, was contacted and advised that he would cooperate and would immediately issue instructions regarding toll calls as issued by MR. RITCHIE. The Muskegon Associated Telephone Company is a private organization.

Superintendent CLAUD CARPENTER, Western Union, Grand Rapids, informed that all offices in the Western Half of Michigan, including the upper peninsula, were covered out of the Chicago office. He informed he would issue instructions to all of the lower peninsula in view of the fact all messages clear through Grand Rapids. He also informed he would notify the Chicago Office to take care of the Upper peninsula.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
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(Letter to the Director dated December 9, 1941 from Special Agent in Charge, Grand Rapids, Michigan)

MRS. HENRIETTE PAULSEN, Assistant General Manager, Postal Telegraph Company, was furnished the same information as furnished MR. CARPENTER, and she advised she would notify her office in Chicago so that instructions could be issued throughout the State of Michigan and the upper peninsula.

Very truly yours,

M. Wilson McFarlin

M. WILSON McFARLIN
Special Agent in Charge

LEM:LRT

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 7, 1941

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒
Mr. Clegg ☒
Mr. Glavin ☒
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☒
Mr. Rosen ☒
Mr. Tracy ☒
Mr. Carson ☐
Mr. Coffey ☐
Mr. Hendon ☐
Mr. Holloman ☐
Mr. Quinn Tamm ☐
Mr. Harbo ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Your Room ☐
Mr. Nease ☐
Miss Gandy ☐
Miss Gandy ☐

Mr. Tracy advises that Mr. Jett of the Federal Communications Commission has stated that the FCC has ordered all amateur radio operators off the air with instructions to stay off the air permanently unless advised by either the Federal, State or Municipal governments to act in an emergency.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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CH-22

57

Ownership of cables



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

December 7, 1941

CHC:PES

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

SAC McKee called stating that he has received a call from a Western Union official in Washington indicating that some Western Union offices in the districts surrounding Washington are somewhat confused with regard to FBI requests concerning telegrams, cablegrams, etc., being sent out by Japanese. Mr. McKee stated that if he can advise this official of Western Union as to the exact, specific, up-to-date instructions, that the official will straighten out all offices of Western Union having any questions whatsoever. I checked with Mr. Fletcher Warren for the exact, specific, up-to-date requests and desires of the State Department. He checked with Mr. Berle and advised me as follows:

Previous instructions from the Bureau to its Field Offices with regard to all telephone calls outside of the United States by Japanese being cancelled is still in effect. Similarly, previous instructions issued by the Bureau to its Field Offices telling them to arrange for cancellation of all other messages sent by Japanese to points outside of the United States, including telegrams, cablegrams, etc., are cancelled unless the telegrams, cablegrams, etc., are filed by Japanese consular or embassy officials as official messages, in which case the FBI is not to request the wire companies, etc., to hold these messages up.

The only notification in the above instructions at the present time is the subsequent State Department request that all incoming and outgoing telegrams, cablegrams, etc., to and from the Japanese Embassy and the other Embassies mentioned by the State Department in Washington

Mr. McKee said that he understood these instructions thoroughly. I told him the State Department desires specifically these instructions be carried out, having indicated it is not desired to delay all consular official messages

Mr. McKee stated he would make this very clear to the Western Union official.

RECORDED

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CH-28

MEMORANDUM FOR
MR. LADD

-2-

SAC McKee subsequently called back and said that the Western Union official understands everything and will clear up all doubt on the part of these various Western Union offices. He indicated that the Western Union official stated that as a matter of fact and practice [REDACTED]

b7E

[REDACTED] without any request having been made for this procedure by the FBI. I told Mr. McKee this is all right.

Respectfully,

CHC
C. H. Carson

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:GEG

November 25, 1941

Time: 1:25 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Neillman _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

I called General Miles, advising him that you had attended a conference this morning composed of the Vice President and representatives of various Governmental agencies and that you had been designated to draw up and return to the committee a summary memorandum showing what the various Governmental Departments are prepared to do in the field of Censorship. I told him you wanted to know if he would designate someone with whom Mr. Clegg could discuss censorship matters. He stated that Major Cordoman has been working on the censorship problem and would be designated to confer with Mr. Clegg.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

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2 DEC 27 1941

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5 DEC 8 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 12, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: Censorship

I thought you would be interested in learning further developments in the field of censorship. As you are aware, authority was given to Army officials yesterday to promptly begin the censorship of all ~~incoming, outgoing and in-transit~~ international mail. This censorship will become effective within forty-eight hours. There must of necessity be a selectivity in the sampling processes until the personnel engaged on censorship work has been increased to the point where it can handle the entire load.

I also authorized Navy Department officials to censor the privately leased wires between the United States and Cuba and any other wires privately leased for international communications except those to Mexico which are being censored by military authorities.

There have been discontinued all telegraph, cable and radio communications addressed to Germany and Italy. No deliveries are now being made of any communications addressed to the German and Italian Embassies which are received from Germany and Italy. The same application is being made to German and Italian occupied territories. This practice has previously been applied to Japan and Japanese occupied territory.

I have requested and obtained a one hundred per cent surveillance of all domestic in the United States by the Federal Communications Commission.

b7E

One of the problems which has existed is that, although radio technicians have been fingerprinted, the fingerprints have not been made available to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for examination against the fingerprint files which we maintain. The taking of the fingerprints and holding of them has therefore been of no value. This has been the case because the Chairman of the FCC made promises to certain labor officials that these fingerprints would not be made available to any other agency. The Chairman of the FCC has now been persuaded to communicate with labor leaders to obtain a release from this pledge to enable the FCC to take appropriate action with reference to any undesirable technicians handling domestic or international broadcasts in the United States. I have also requested the Chairman of the FCC to explore the possibility of his conducting appropriate investigations of any alien news commentators with a view to taking such action as the facts may justify.

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Mr. Gandy _____

1030/2
 25

It has now been confirmed that the customs authorities are making a one hundred per cent check of all international shipments, incoming, outgoing and in transit, with a view to censoring any communications and publications contained therein. The same rule is being applied by them to outgoing, incoming and in transit travelers and their luggage.

There is a "jamming" of the wave which is presently being utilized by a radio station in the German Embassy to make communications going out of that station unintelligible. This station has been recently located and apparently has been but recently installed.

For the purposes of coordination, conferences were held yesterday with representatives of Federal Communications Commission and also with naval and military authorities to coordinate the various phases of censorship activities which are being practiced and initiated. I have been particularly pleased at the cooperative attitude displayed in this coordination effort.

Arrangements also have been made for the delivery to me this morning of two [redacted] that they may be censored.

b7E

There is attached hereto a statement of present practices in the field of censorship which brings this matter up to date.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Attachment

Handwritten: Important to J. E. Hoover

December 11, 1941

RE: CENSORSHIP

THE PRESENT PRACTICES IN THE FIELD OF
CENSORSHIP AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

1. Military and Naval censorship of communications to and from Military and Naval personnel is in effect at bases outside of the United States, including bases leased from the Government.
2. Military and Naval Communications Sections have been confidentially engaged in the surveilling of various types of international radio communications which were believed might be of special significance to the Army and Navy.
3. The Federal Communications Commission is doing a general monitoring job in all unauthorized fields of radio communication, point-to-point radio communications and unauthorized broadcasts. In this connection, the Federal Communications Commission is continually patrolling the ether to pick up any unauthorized transmittals or broadcasts.
4. The Federal Communications Commission conducts a monitoring of every word of incoming propaganda transmitted by radio.
5. The Federal Communications Commission is now covering some foreign point-to-point radio communications and is equipped to cover additional ones upon request.
6. The Federal Communications Commission is now doing general monitoring surveillances in the domestic broadcast field when pertinent to and in connection with foreign language broadcasts.
7. The Federal Communications Commission places a limitation on the use of radios on foreign ships in United States waters. They are not permitted to use their radios except for safety and similar purposes.
8. The Federal Communications Commission prohibits amateur radio stations and radio operators broadcasting to foreign countries.
9. The Federal Communications Commission controls, through its licensing power, radio operators and radio stations. This licensing power is naturally a strong influence, as the Commission can refuse to grant a license to an operator or a station and can revoke licenses already issued.

b7D

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Dec 11

62-62736-82
1941

10. The Federal Communications Commission requires that a complete record be maintained of all communications by domestic telegraph, by international cable telegraph, by international radio telegraph, and all similar communications by radio from ship to shore and international communications. The carrier or transmittal companies are required to keep copies of communications and programs and require that these communications be maintained in a file. At present, these communications must be maintained for one year.

The only review of any of the communications and records, which has taken place, has been done for the purpose of determining the classification of communications, the speed of transmittal, the type of service, and usually these searches are made in connection with hearings. The Federal Communications Commission has not engaged in the practice of reviewing the messages as to content material.

11. The Federal Communications Commission is establishing an office in [] and is obtaining from the [] access to their files and records concerning European broadcasts.

b7D
b7E

12. The Post Office Department examines samples of suspected mail items, not including first class letters, but including prints, parcel post and papers, for the purpose of determining if the publication or the mailer is registered under the Registration Act or to determine if the matter can be classified as propaganda. An opinion is then obtained as to whether the matter is nonmailable, and suitable action taken.

13. The Post Office Department examines first class mail only when there is an indication that the contents are contraband and the addressee or addresser can be persuaded to open the communication in the presence of Postal authorities, or when there is adequate information to support the use of a search warrant in examining the mail.

14. The Post Office Department prohibits the transmission through the mails of publications which violate copyright laws.

15. The Post Office Department enforces the laws which provide penalties for transmission by mail of certain items, such as poisons; explosives; obscene matter; libelous, indecent and fictitious matter; and several other classifications prohibited specifically by statute.

16. The Post Office Department, at the request of the FBI, will hold suspected mail for 48 hours until a search warrant can be obtained to permit examination.

17. Customs inspection aids in controlling all incoming mail, except first class mail, and also aids in controlling communications which may be shipped internationally by freight or other means.

18. Freight and other exports are examined by Customs authorities to determine the existence of information of value to the American export control system, narcotics control and proclamations prohibiting the export of firearms.

19. It is a practice of Customs officials to search persons and their belongings when they are outgoing or incoming Nationals of Japan, Germany, Italy and the "blocked" nations.

20. All incoming vessels are searched by Customs authorities, and outgoing vessels are searched when a special reason exists.

21. The Liaison Section of the General Counsel's Office, Treasury Department, examines suspected literature to determine if it is propaganda or subversive literature. The information is reviewed, digested, analyzed to some extent, and referred to interested departments and agencies. This examination includes films, photographs, books and publications.

22. Foreign Funds Control receives from Customs and Post Office authorities and investigative agencies any incoming material from foreign countries which might contain securities or be of interest in controlling foreign funds.

23. The U. S. Maritime Commission endeavors to get the cooperation of newspapers so that they will cease publishing specific information concerning the movements of merchant ships and cargoes.

24. The Economic Defense Board receives intercepts, usually those discovered by [redacted] censorship, through the State Department, the FBI, and from Military and Naval Intelligence, when the intercepted material relates to matters of economic defense.

25. The FBI maintains close liaison with [redacted] censorship and receives all intercepts considered of value from an intelligence standpoint. A similar relationship exists with [redacted]

26. The FBI receives intercepts from the Federal Communications Commission and occasionally from the Coast Guard when the contents relate to matters of intelligence.

27. The FBI operates a radio monitoring station for handling intelligence work, including radio surveillance in cases of counter-espionage and counter-sabotage, when the cases are within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI.

28. The Library of Congress has a current interest in all literature seized as propaganda. The information is for the files of the Library and for possible restricted dissemination to certain interested government departments. [redacted]

b7D

[redacted] contributes to the total collection of such items. The Library performs a selection and examination function in connection with material recommended to the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs for dissemination in Latin America.

29. The State Department censors [redacted] both as to incoming and outgoing mail. There is a sampling of from 33-1/3 to 50 per cent of the contents of [redacted] to see that the contents comply with regulations which have been promulgated by the State Department to the effect that only that mail may be included which is for the purpose of promoting and protecting American interests.

b7E

30. The Immigration and Naturalization Service censors mail addressed to or from persons held under deportation processes.

31. The Immigration and Naturalization Service may require an alien departing from the United States to submit for official inspection all documents and articles and other things which are being removed from the United States upon, or in connection with, such person's departure.

32. The Federal Bureau of Prisons makes a one hundred per cent censorship of all incoming and outgoing mail of inmates incarcerated in their institutions. The Federal Bureau of Prisons also determines what magazines and books may be received and read by the inmates and also selects the radio programs which they may hear.

33. A spot-check is made on all domestic foreign language broadcasts made in the United States. There are 200 stations using 31 foreign languages.

34. The Federal Communications Commission is constantly patrolling the ether along a systematic line, looking for illegal radio stations.

Censorship Practices Inaugurated Since the Beginning of Hostilities

35. No messages of any kind are permitted to be dispatched to Japan and to Japanese occupied territory.

36. The FBI has instructed that no telephone calls be permitted to be sent into or out of the Japanese Embassy in Washington.

37. The FBI has requested telephone companies not to permit Japanese to telephone to any point outside of the continental United States.

38. The Navy Department is conducting censorship by surveillance of international communications by radio-telephone, radio-telegraph, and by cable.

39. The Navy is surveilling communications from all coastal harbor stations.

40. The Army is censoring telegraph and telephone communications between Mexico and the United States.

41. No international telegraphic communications are permitted to be delivered to the Japanese Embassy or Japanese consulates in the United States.

42. The Federal Communications Commission has imposed radio silence on all commercial ships.

43. The Federal Communications Commission is monitoring all possible frequencies to intercept international communications between Mexico and Axis points.

44. A surveillance is being conducted of any possible radio transmittals from [redacted]

[redacted] and signals have already been detected emanating from [redacted]

b7E

45. An FCC inspector has established liaison with designated military posts so that, upon military request, the FCC will require radio facilities to close down temporarily until further instructions.

46. The Coordinator of Information Office listens to all international broadcasts through a central station in New York.

47. The FCC is maintaining a spot-check on a station at Lima, Peru, which communicates with Tokyo and Berlin, and on another at Bogota, Colombia, which communicates with Rome and Berlin.

48. All amateur radio broadcasts have been discontinued except those approved by the FCC for use in national defense and the Office of Civilian Defense.

49. All commercial codes have been stopped. Later certain codes will be approved.

50. On December 11, 1941, there were discontinued all telegraph, cable and radio communications addressed to Germany and Italy, and no deliveries are to be made of any communications, even addressed to German and Italian Embassies, which are received from Germany or Italy.

51. Instructions were issued whereby military authorities will have in operation a postal censorship on incoming, outgoing and in-transit mail of an international character within forty-eight hours. There will necessarily be a selectivity in the sampling of these types of mail proportionate to the progressive increase in personnel.

52. The Office of Naval Intelligence was authorized to censor international communications by leased wire which will become effective in the United States.

53. The Treasury Department through its customs agents now reports a one hundred per cent censorship of international communications by freight, express, air express and that carried by passengers on their person or in their luggage. This applies to incoming, outgoing and in-transit transportation of communications.

54. The FCC now reports a one hundred per cent censorship of all Japanese language broadcasts as well as the spot surveillance of all other foreign language broadcasts.

55. There has been discontinued all telegraph, cable and radio communications with German and Italian occupied countries.

JEH:HCB

62-64736-83

December 9, 1941

Personal and Confidential

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am in receipt of your memorandum of December 9th, with which you inclosed a copy of the letter from the Secretary of the Navy to the President, and a proposed Executive Order providing for censorship of international radio and cable communications.

I have explored this situation and find that this communication of the Secretary of the Navy was prepared prior to the President's signing the order of Monday, December 8th, designating me to serve temporarily for the handling of censorship arrangements. I also find that the provision of the proposed Executive Order are in actual fact being carried out by the Navy at the present time, and all that the Executive Order would do would be to legalize those activities and enable the Secretary of the Navy to issue certain rules and regulations. I recommend that this Order not be signed for the time being. I am already working upon certain basic principles and policies for censorship and if the work that we are doing now is adopted, the policies and procedure may vary considerably from the rules and regulations that the Navy Department would issue should the Executive Order be signed. It would then mean that there would have to be a complete revamping of the rules and regulations by the Director of Censorship. This would be most undesirable and not entirely efficient. In view of the fact that the Navy is already carrying on the functions which they would be authorized to carry on under Executive Order, I see nothing to be gained by signing the Executive Order at this time in view of the fact that the whole situation concerning censorship may be clarified within a few days.

Respectfully

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure to Attorney
General's memo returned.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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DEC 11 1941
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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

December 8, 1941

My dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to transmit for your consideration a draft of an Executive Order providing for censorship of international cable and radio communications.

The purpose of the proposed Executive Order is to prohibit the transmission of information by cable or radio between the United States, its territories, and points outside, except under regulations to be established by the Secretary of the Navy. This Executive Order will establish censorship of all such messages.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK KNOX

The President,
The White House.

Enclosure.

EXECUTIVE ORDER

CENSORSHIP OF INTERNATIONAL CABLE AND RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

WHEREAS, the existence of a state of war between the United States and Japan makes it essential to the public safety and the national defense and security that there shall be no transmission of information by cable or radio detrimental to the national defense.

THEREFORE, by virtue of and pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution, as President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, it is ordered that all persons, corporations or others, owning, controlling, or operating submarine cables, or radio telephone, radio telegraph or radio broadcasting stations, are hereby prohibited from transmitting messages between the United States, its territories and possessions, and any foreign country; between the United States and its territories or possessions; between the United States, its territories and possessions, and any vessel, regardless of the location of such vessel; and between such territories or possessions and other such territories or possessions and other such territories or possessions, except as permitted under rules and regulations to be established by the Secretary of the Navy.

To the Secretary of the Navy is delegated the duty of preparing and enforcing rules and regulations under this order to accomplish the above purpose.

This order shall take effect from date.



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

December 9, 1941

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Holloman.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER.

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Navy to the President, and a proposed Executive Order, providing for censorship of international radio and cable communications.

Please let me have your advice with respect to whether such an order should be signed. The Budget will hold it up until they hear from me.

Encl.

Francis Biddle
Attorney General

memo to A. J. 2, (ret. inv.)
12-9-41
gus

1 ENCL. 5

RECORDED

62-62736-83
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 DEC 13 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM LADD LAB

WFO:BG

December 11, 1941

84

Mr. Huntington Cairns
Assistant General Counsel
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cairns:

By reference from Mr. Clegg, I am in receipt of your letter of December 10, 1941, concerning the delegation of powers relating to all forms of communications of the enemy or allies of the enemy.

An informal opinion has been received from the Department of Justice to the effect that the statutory authority set forth after the amendment in Section 3-C of the Trading With the Enemy Act makes it illegal to transmit communications to the enemy and the allies of the enemy and would authorize the stopping of such communications, but there was no power within the meaning of this phraseology which would permit the opening or the censoring of mail, and that there were no powers of censorship, other than stopping the communication, which are authorized by the language of the statute.

In view of this opinion, in view of an exchange of conversations between you and Mr. Clegg of this Bureau, and in view of further advice which I have received today that there will be presented to Congress today for passage a bill which will grant powers of censorship under a restoration of the effectiveness of the Trading With the Enemy Act of 1917, it would appear to me to be inadvisable to make any specific delegation of powers at this particular time. However, in the event you learn of any situation which would justify the delegation of such powers to meet a specific emergency, if you will communicate

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

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RECEIVED-DEPT. OF JUSTICE
4 39 PM '41

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with this office, prompt action will be taken within the existing authority.

I thank you very much for your courtesy in referring this matter to me.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Wendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date _____ 1941

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director	Mr. Hince
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tolson	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Carlson
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. E. A. Tamm	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Donaldson
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Glavin	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Espey
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Ladd	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Hicks
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Nichols	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. McCabe
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Rosen	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. F. T. McIntire
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Egan	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Prescott
<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Robey
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Gurnea	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Rogers
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Harbo	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Santoiana
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Hendon	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Holloman	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. H. A. Meyers
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. R. H. Laughlin	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Biles
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Pennington	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Clark
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Renneberger	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Dunaway
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Quinn Tamm	<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Griggs
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tracy	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Hansen

<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Clerk's Office	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Heath
<input type="checkbox"/> Files Section	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Hodges
<input type="checkbox"/> Ident. Division	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Holliday
<input type="checkbox"/> Mail Room	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Starkweather
<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical Section	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Teller
<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Files Section	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Turner
<input type="checkbox"/> Supply Division	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tour Room	
<input type="checkbox"/> Washington Field	
<input type="checkbox"/> FHLB Building	
<input type="checkbox"/> Quantico	
<input type="checkbox"/> Room	

☐ See me
☐ Phone me
☐ Send file
☐ Note and return
☐ Record and route
☐ Please handle
☐ Please forward
☐ File our Files

DEC 11 1941
 RECEIVED-CLERK
 Clegg - Rm. 5256
 Telephone 484



GENERAL COUNSEL
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

December 10, 1941

Dear Mr. Clegg:

I am enclosing a copy of the letter addressed to the Attorney General, dated December 8, 1941, together with the enclosure referred to therein.

The Treasury now has under consideration the possibility of making the delegation of the powers relating to all forms of communications to the enemy or allies of the enemy to the Navy censorship.

Very truly yours,

Huntington Cairns
Assistant General Counsel

Mr. Hugh H. Clegg
Room 5256
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RECORDED
DEC 11 1941
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62-6716-84

Ans. 12/11/41
HHC
B.

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SENT BY SPECIAL MESSENGER
TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
on 12-8-41 at 1:25 PM
DEC 8 1941

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation this morning, I am sending you herewith a proposed order of the Secretary of the Treasury delegating the powers vested in him by Article XI of Executive Order No. 2729-A, dated October 12, 1917, issued under section 3(c) of the

* Trading with the enemy Act. The language of section 3(c) reads:

"SEC. 3. That it shall be unlawful—

(c) For any person (other than a person in the service of the United States Government or of the Government of any nation, except that of an enemy or ally of enemy nation, and other than such persons or classes of persons as may be exempted hereunder by the President or by such person as he may direct), to send, or take out of, or bring into, or attempt to send, or take out of, or bring into the United States, any letter or other writing or tangible form of communication, except in the regular course of the mail; and it shall be unlawful for any person to send, take, or transmit, or attempt to send, take, or transmit out of the United States, any letter or other writing, book, map, plan, or other paper, picture, or any telegram, cablegram, or wireless message, or other form of communication intended for or to be delivered, directly or indirectly, to an enemy or ally of enemy: Provided, however, That any person may send, take, or transmit out of the United States anything herein forbidden if he shall first submit the same to the President, or to such officer as the President may direct, and shall obtain the license or consent of the President, under such rules and regulations, and with such exemptions, as shall be prescribed by the President."

62-67726-84

It is the intention of the Secretary of the Treasury to retain the administration of the powers relating to tangible forms of communication outside the regular course of the mail, granted by that portion of section 3(c) preceding the semi-colon. Those powers are delegated by the proposed order to the Bureau of Customs in this Department.

The administration of the powers granted by that portion of section 3(c) following the semi-colon, relating to all forms of communications to the enemy or allies of the enemy, are intended to be delegated outside the Department of the Treasury. I should like to be advised of the agency or person to be designated in the proposed order. If Mr. Hoover is to administer those powers, should he be designated as Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or in some other capacity?

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Huntington Cairns

Assistant General Counsel.

The Honorable

The Attorney General of the United States.

(T. D.)

Procedure for administering the duties imposed upon the Secretary of the Treasury by Articles XI and XIII of Executive Order No. 2729-A, dated October 12, 1917, under the Trading with the enemy Act, Act of October 6, 1917.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, December , 1941

To officers of the Treasury Department and others concerned:

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Treasury by Executive Order No. 2729-A, dated October 12, 1917, I hereby adopt the following administrative procedure deemed necessary and proper for the executive administration of Article XI, vested by said Executive Order in the Secretary of the Treasury; such administrative procedure to remain in effect unless and until modified or superseded by direction of the Secretary of the Treasury.

(1) I hereby designate

to act as the agency of the Secretary of the Treasury to administer the authority vested in the Secretary of the Treasury relative to the sending, taking, or transmitting, or attempting to send, take, or transmit, out of the United States, and to issue licenses under such

regulations as said

may from time to time prescribe, to send, take, or transmit out of the United States any letter, or other writing, book, map, plan, or other paper, picture, or any telegram, cablegram, or wireless message, or other form of communication intended for or to be delivered, directly or indirectly, to an enemy or ally of enemy. All applications for such licenses shall be made to

in the form prescribed by .

(2) I hereby designate the Bureau of Customs in the Department of the Treasury to administer and to issue licenses (except licenses to send, take, or transmit out of the United States any letter, writing, or tangible form of communication intended for or to be delivered, directly or indirectly, to an enemy or ally of enemy) in respect of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Treasury under Article XI of said Executive Order relative to sending, or taking out of, or bringing into, or attempting to send, take out of, or bring into, the United States

- 8 -

any letter or other writing or tangible form of communication
except in the regular course of the mail.

Secretary of the Treasury.

Approved, December , 1941.

The White House

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Grand Rapids, Michigan
December 9, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: PRESS COMMUNICATIONS

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau teletype dated December 7, 1941, regarding the stopping of press communications to foreign countries.

Please be advised that MR. JOHN F. WURZ of the Grand Rapids Herald and MR. LEE WOODRUFF of the Grand Rapids Press were contacted and advised that there are no direct lines to any of the countries listed in reference teletype from this territory, all items clearing through either Detroit or New York.

Very truly yours,

M. Wilson McFarlin

M. WILSON McFARLIN
Special Agent in Charge

LEM:LRT

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-62736-85

DEC 12 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CH-21

Ownership of Cable Communications

December 11, 1941

JEH:JRC

TIME: 3:55 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD
MR. CLEGG

Postmaster General Walker called me to ask if he could send one of the Post Office Inspectors with Mr. Ironsides to the meeting. I told him this would be entirely agreeable.

Mr. Walker stated he would have the men at my office at 4:30 pm today.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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62-62736-86
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 13 1941



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:GEG
Received: 10:50 A.M.
Typed: 10:57 A.M.

December 11, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Gordon of the State Department called. He stated that Mr. Fitch of the State Department has received word from his man in California that [redacted] are on board the S. S. President Johnson in the Port of San Francisco. The State Department, acting with the approval of Mr. Berle, is obtaining these [redacted] and they will be forwarded to Washington where they will be turned over to Postmaster General Walker, it being technically necessary that Mr. Walker take custody of this material. Mr. Berle has also approved the obtaining of this material from Postmaster General Walker in your capacity as Coordinator of Censorship. Mr. Gordon stated that he will advise the Bureau when these [redacted] are received from California and turned over to Mr. Walker in order that you can contact him and obtain the material.

Mr. Gordon stated he had been advised this morning that Postmaster General Walker already has in his possession other [redacted] and Mr. Berle approves of your obtaining these. Mr. Gordon stated he did not know how much of this information was previously known to you, but in the event the Bureau has already obtained some of the [redacted] from Mr. Walker, he asked to be advised of the exact number received.

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INDEXED

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

62-62736-87	
FEDERAL B	INVESTIGATION
5	DEC 13 1941
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Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Foxworth ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Carson ✓
Mr. Drayton ✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
Mr. Hendon ✓
Mr. Coffey ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Tour Room ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Miss Beahm ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

b7E

I had not heard of this. Clegg should get in touch with Mr. Lonsides of P. O.

H.

Done
Issued here
at 9:30 am
12/17/41

Phone Lonsides
Merris Dwyer
12/17/41

J.M:HCB

December 10, 1941

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Honorable Frank C. Walker
The Postmaster General
Post Office Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Walker:

I was very much concerned yesterday when I noticed a news flash to the effect that an authoritative source at Washington stated that I had been named to take charge of the censorship arrangements. At the meeting which I had called the day before for the purpose of endeavoring to coordinate the censorship matters until the President had decided upon a permanent set-up, I specifically stated to the representatives of the Government Departments present that the meeting was confidential and that my capacity was merely that of trying to act as coordinator of the present facilities and that this was of course to be considered confidential. I have ascertained that the information reached the press concerning this matter through Admiral Hepburn of the United States Navy, who made the statement "off the record" to a group of newspaper men, and through that channel it reached the press.

I wanted you to know of this because both officially and personally I felt that my connection with this project should not be publicly announced in view of the fact of its basically temporary character.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
RECEIVED
DEC 10 1941
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

32212

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 18 1941
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

HHC:MS

December 10, 1941

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

I felt that the President and you would be interested in knowing of the progress being made in the handling of problems of censorship and ~~censorship~~ planning.

There is attached hereto a brief summary of major developments in this field since the report which I submitted yesterday.

With assurances of my highest esteem and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

32189

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Brayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

cc Director

Mr. E. A. Tamm

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Miss Gandy

★ DEC 10 1941

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INDEXED

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RECORDED
DEC 10 1941
FBI

December 9, 1941

THE: CENSORSHIP

With further reference to the plans for and practices of censorship, there was a meeting this afternoon of the subcommittee appointed to establish basic policies and principles for censorship administration and organization. The tentative subjects of censorship of international communications were drafted for further consideration as follows:

International communications channels should be controlled for the following purposes:

1. Security - To stop all communications

- a. Disclosing information about the United States or allied forces, including shipping, or about the effect of the operations of enemy forces;
- b. Disclosing information about the production or supply of munitions, or the location or progress of war industry, or the location or condition of materials useful in such industries;
- c. Containing matter which, if circulated, might prejudice the policy of the United States, the prestige of the United States, or United States relations with other powers, or which might adversely affect the morale of any part of the population of the United States or of its allies;
- d. Containing matter of benefit economically or financially to the enemy or injurious to our economic or financial operations;
- e. Otherwise likely to assist the enemy or his allies.

2. Intelligence - To obtain information about

- a. Enemy naval, military and air forces and operations, including supplies, casualties and morale;
- b. Enemy political, economic and social status and conditions, including public opinion, internal, economic and social conditions and effect of United States and allied propaganda;
- c. Public opinion and general economic and social conditions in neutral countries, including enemy subversive activities and effects of enemy propaganda;

4. Generally to provide information concerning enemy and neutral trade, industry and finance useful in the application of economic pressure, or information which might be useful in the operation of our own economy.

This tentative draft has been submitted to various other interested governmental officials for comment and suggestions. This Committee also agreed to the premise that the American public was entitled to receive all information except that which, if disclosed, would give aid and comfort to the enemy.

The Subcommittee on Organization also met and enumerated the present practices of censorship which have been inaugurated since the Japanese began their war against the United States. There were also identified some of the existing problems yet to be solved. Included in such problems was the fact that it is now possible for radio announcers to be aliens. It was recommended that all aliens employed by broadcasting companies be fingerprinted and that all axis aliens, including announcers, be investigated and their names checked against the files of the intelligence agencies.

It was further disclosed that there is no present censorship of domestic foreign language broadcasts. The Federal Communications Commission is now making spot checks of foreign language broadcasts but there is no censorship or full control. It was recommended that inquiries be made to determine if there is legal authority for the Federal Communications Commission to require that Japanese language broadcasts be immediately discontinued. Other domestic foreign language broadcasts, it was felt, should be permitted to continue since they may in fact prove a definite asset in our National Defense effort, but a surveillance of these broadcasts by the Federal Communications Commission should be continued and perhaps expanded. If there were undesirable foreign language broadcasts, the policy should be to deal with each specific station rather than to abolish all foreign language broadcasts.

It was disclosed that the United Press is now receiving directly from Germany on its own receivers news which it republishes to the press. The Federal Communications Commission has agreed to make appropriate investigation to see if there is anything of a suspicious nature in connection with these transmissions.

Both of the subcommittees are continuing to meet to discover and analyze the problems with the view to making further progress in the investigative stages.

In the machine instructions have been issued whereby all requests made of private communications companies for transmittal of international communications are to be first cleared through the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in order to develop a proper coordination and in order to exercise control over existing practices.

Instructions have been specifically issued for the continuation within the scope of military and naval necessity of present military and naval censorship operations, with the requirement that the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation be kept informed of these practices and any modifications as well as additional practices.

HHC:MET

December 10, 1941

The Honorable
The Postmaster General
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Mr. Postmaster General:

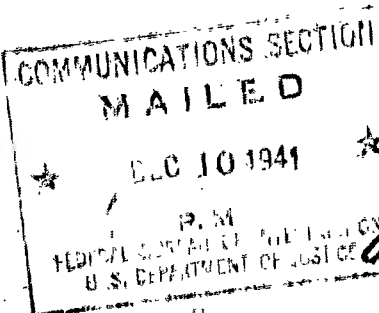
I felt that you would be interested in knowing the further progress being made in handling problems of censorship and authorship planning. There is attached hereto a brief summary of major developments in this field since the report which I submitted yesterday.

With assurances of my high esteem and best wishes,

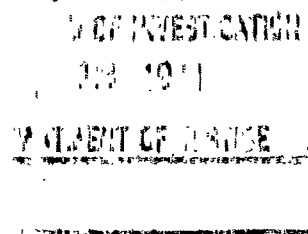
Sincerely yours,

W. J. C.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Melton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



62-62736-90



Q

HMC:BG

December 10, 1941

PERSONAL AND STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

Further reference is made to the report which I submitted to you covering the Survey of Censorship Practices and Plans. Since the submission of this report, additional and supplementary practices have been inaugurated, in which I felt the President and you would be interested. There is inclosed herewith a memorandum listing these additional censorship practices.

With assurances of my highest esteem and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Inclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

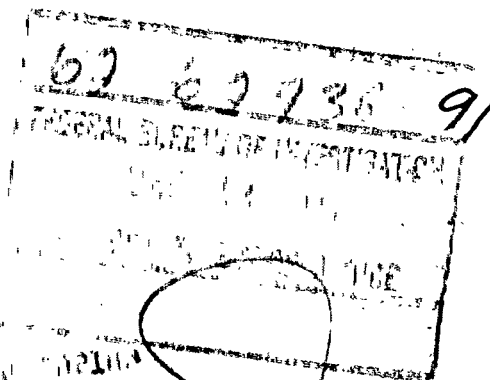
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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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DEC 10 1941

P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DEC 10 1941
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



JEH:JRC

December 11, 1941

TIME: 3:52 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

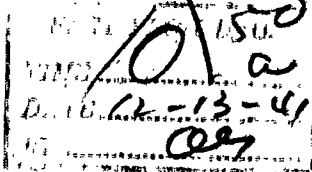
I called General Miles and while discussing other matters he told me Colonel Black told him that Colonel Donovan is absolutely unable to control the short wave radio matters. General Miles said that the Army's monitoring system finds that the Axis powers are making great to-do over the short wave broadcast of the panics on the East and West Coasts.

I informed General Miles that this has been left to Colonel Donovan to handle. I told him I would check into this. General Miles asked that his name be kept out of any checking.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DEC 13 1941

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson _____ ()
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____ ()
Mr. Clegg _____ ()
Mr. Foxworth _____ ()
Mr. Glavin _____ ()
Mr. Ladd _____ ()
Mr. Nichols _____ ()
Mr. Rosen _____ ()
Mr. Carson _____ ()
Mr. Baughman _____ ()
Miss Beahm _____ ()
Mr. Boger _____ ()
Mr. Clayton _____ ()
Mr. Coffey _____ ()
Mr. Egan _____ ()
Miss Gandy _____ ()
Mr. Grant _____ ()
Miss Gunn _____ ()
Mr. Harbo _____ ()
Mr. Hendon _____ ()
Mr. Holloman _____ ()
Mr. Laughlin _____ ()
Mr. McIntire _____ ()
Mr. McKenna _____ ()
Mr. Marr _____ ()
Mr. Nease _____ ()
Mr. Parsons _____ ()
Mr. Patterson _____ ()
Mr. Renneberger _____ ()
Mr. Q. Tamm _____ ()
Mr. Tracy _____ ()
Files Section _____ ()
Personnel Files _____ ()
Reading Room _____ ()
For your Information _____ ()
Note and Return _____ ()
File _____ ()
Return with File _____ ()
Please Initial _____ ()

December 9, 1941

JKH:CJ

Time - 10:27 A. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-20-91 BY [redacted]

The Attorney General informed me that his Censorship Bill has been approved by every Department and he will take it over to the President today. He stated he would probably suggest the name of Byron Price, Executive News Editor of the Associated Press. I suggested to the Attorney General that the sooner Mr. Price gets in on the ground floor to become familiar with the details, even though the Bill is not passed, the better it will be. I stated that it may take four or five days to get the Bill passed and that as soon as the President makes the decision, Mr. Price had better come over at once so we can get started right away.

I told the Attorney General that everything is in very good shape and that I had the Army and Navy in session last night and this morning and that they are in full accord. Last night all telegrams, upon our order, were held up at the Western Union, but the next thing we knew the Navy had ordered them to be cleared and sent out, unbeknownst to either State, Army or ourselves. Western Union has been taking orders from us and the Navy has agreed in the future that they will not issue any orders until they clear here first.

I informed the Attorney General that I have a twenty-four hour detail available to make a decision on any problem that may arise. The Attorney General suggested that we send the President a brief line concerning this matter and I told him I was sending him a memorandum immediately as to what had been done.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 12 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

December 11, 1941

JEH:JRC

TIME: 3:52 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD
MR. CLEGG

I called General Miles and asked him if Major Corderman could come to my office. I informed General Miles that it has become necessary to apply censorship to all outgoing mail from this country immediately. I told him that under the original plan this was an Army task, and I would like to have a conference this afternoon with Major Corderman, The Chief Postoffice Inspector, and myself to set up plans so we can start this within 24 hours.

General Miles said that Major Corderman would be here.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 9, 1941

JEH:PB

TIME: 4:44 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD
MR. CLEGG

At this time I called Colonel Donovan to advise that this afternoon in a meeting attended by Mr. Archibald MacLeish, General Miles, Major Corderman, Captain Wilkinson, Mr. Clegg and I, we worked on the principles of censorship.

I told Colonel Donovan that I would like to send to him the tentative draft of the basic principles that we had tentatively reached so that we could have his observation and any criticism he would like to make of it, understanding that this particular report is merely on the broad basic grounds for censorship and might be the basis for use when the permanent censorship is set up.

I told him that I hoped that in the final analysis we might be able to get this general set of principles approved, probably by the President, so that it can be a guide when the Director of Censorship is named.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 13 1941
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RPK:LL

62-62736-97

December 8, 1941

INTERVIEW

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Yesterday, at the request of the State Department, this Bureau issued instructions to each of its field offices to contact communications companies in its district, requesting that they not transmit, beyond the limits of the United States, messages filed by Japanese, but that these messages be turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation until a decision as to their disposition could be made by the proper authorities.

Pursuant to these instructions, the New York City office of the FBI made contacts with the Postal Telegraph Company and the Western Union Telegraph Company in New York City, requesting that they take the designated action. The New York City office of the Bureau was later advised that each of these telegraph companies had been informed by Mr. James Lawrence Fly of the Federal Communications Commission to disregard the FBI's request and take no action along the lines suggested by the FBI until the following day.

I wanted you to be advised of this action by Mr. Fly, since I feel it was entirely out of order and that the attitude taken by Mr. Fly in this instance, in addition to being openly uncooperative, was, as a matter of fact, in opposition to the desires of the Governmental agencies which were directly concerned with a problem of major proportions and absolute emergency, with which Mr. Fly was obviously unacquainted.

It would seem that, in the event he felt it necessary to inject his opinion into the situation, Mr. Fly should properly have communicated with me prior to advising private agencies to disregard this Bureau's requests. This sort of attitude cannot help but raise some question in the minds of the operators of private business as to just what the wishes of their Government are.

I wish to state that in my opinion Mr. Fly's actions in this matter were unjustified and were certainly not at all cooperative with the effort which this Bureau was endeavoring to make under most urgent and trying conditions. Fortunately, each of the communications

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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TIME 12:55
DATE 12/19/41
BY [Signature]

12-40155-213

Memorandum for the
Attorney General

Page 2

companies in New York complied with this Bureau's request, in spite of Mr. Fly's intervention, and the arrangements were carried out in conformity with the wishes of the State Department.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

12-8 1941

☐ The Director
☐ Mr. Tolson
☐ Mr. Clegg
☒ Mr. Ladd
☐ Mr. Nichols
☐ Mr. Rosen
☐ Mr. Glavin
☐ Mr. Pennington
☐ Mr. Tracy
☐ Mr. Nease

☐ Files Section
☐ Personnel Files
☐ Mechanical Section
☐ Identification Division
☐ Mr. Quinn Tamm
☐ Translation Unit

SECTION CHIEFS

☐ Mr. Carson
☐ Mr. Strickland
☐ Mr. Holloman
☐ Mr. Timm

☐ Mr. Kimball
☐ Mr. Kramer
☐ Mr. Cunningham

☐ Mr. _____

☐ Miss Gandy
☐ Miss Stalcup
☐ Mr. Gotschall
☐ Mr. Potter
☐ Mr. Bryant
☐ See Me

new Potter make

☐ Send File
☐ Bring file up-to-date
☐ Correct
☒ Call me regarding this
☐ Note and Return
☐ Search, serialize and route
☐ Prepare tickler for
☐ Call these files
☐ Stamp and mail
☐ War and Navy File
☐ State Department File

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
December 7, 1941

DML:PF:ALM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Time: 10:50 P.M.

SAC Foxworth of New York called relative to instructions having been received to notify all communication companies not to send messages for Japanese. He advised that his office had called all these communication companies asking them not to take this Japanese material.

Mr. Ellery Stone, Vice President of the Postal Telegraph checked with Mr. Fly of the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D. C., who advised that he knew nothing about such instructions. He suggested to the communication company that they take no action in regard to the FBI's instructions until tomorrow when he had a chance to call his Defense Communications Board together. Mr. Stone requested that his name not be used.

Mr. Foxworth advised that Mr. Stone is going ahead and put through all our instructions and the other companies are doing the same. If Mr. Fly is going to put some obstacles in the way, Mr. Stone wondered if it would be possible for Mr. Hoover or the White House to straighten this fellow out. Mr. Foxworth advised that Mr. Fly is in his, Fly's office, in Washington now.

Mr. Foxworth again called and stated that Mr. Stone had contacted him and advised that Mr. Simons of Western Union had advised him that Western Union was not putting the plan into effect in view of Fly's instructions. Mr. Foxworth stated, however, that the New York office contacted Simons who informed the New York office that Western Union was putting the above instructions into effect at 10:45 P.M. He suggested that some definite instructions be issued to Fly with reference to this program. RECORDED

Respectfully,

INDEXED
am

D. M. Ladd

62-62736-97
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 13 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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12/8/41
Memo. ally sent
RPIC

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

EFE/NTP

December 11, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: [redacted]
[redacted] NEW YORK CITY

Dear Sir:

There are being enclosed herewith additional
[redacted] which
[redacted] in New York City on
December 10, 1941.

b7E

The additional copy of these is being retained
by the New York Office and are being carefully reviewed for
any matter of interest, which, of course, will be immediately
brought to the attention of the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

Enclosures

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

1 ENCL. 7

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62-12436-98	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
7	DEC 13 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

December 13, 1941

3113

TIME: 11:17 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

Breckinridge Long of the State Department called at this time and stated that he had received my communication of yesterday concerning the Japanese, German and Italian Embassies. He stated that in connection with these people we should do the following three things if possible:

1. Have [redacted]
[redacted] to the State Department, and
also [redacted] from the
[redacted] to each of these [redacted]
2. Allow persons at the Japanese Embassy to go to their homes to obtain laundry, pack any other belongings they want and return to the Embassy under guard.
3. Allow a representative of the Swiss Legation to enter all three Embassies with perfect freedom.
4. Arrange for the married men at the Japanese Embassy to spend the nights with their families [redacted]
[redacted]

b7E

b7E

I told Mr. Long that the first three things could be done easily, but that the last request would be a little difficult. However, I stated I would endeavor to work out some plan by which this could be accomplished.

b7E

Mr. Long asked if the mail from all three Embassies is being stopped. I stated that it was being censored, including [redacted] I advised him that we had received two [redacted] yesterday.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DEC 13 1941

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JUSTICE

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RPK:CS

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

December 12, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 3108

For your information, I should like to advise of the arrangements which have been effected by this Bureau for the protection and coverage of the Japanese, German and Italian Embassies in Washington, D. C. upon the request of the State Department. For your convenience, the arrangements with respect to each of the embassies are being set out separately below.

JAPANESE EMBASSY

1. A police guard has been established for the protection of the embassy, the personnel having been furnished by the Metropolitan Police Department.
2. Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation are in charge of the guard and there are fourteen Special Agents operating on each of two shifts in this capacity stationed around the building and in the vicinity of the embassy. There are seven FBI automobiles available in the vicinity of the embassy for the use of the Special Agents.
3. No one is permitted entrance to the embassy and persons who desire to enter are courteously informed that permission can not be granted them to do so.
4. Persons who wish to leave the embassy are approached and courteously advised that they should remain within the embassy. If they refuse, no restraint is placed on them. [REDACTED]
5. The telephone service at the embassy has been disconnected by the Telephone Company and, therefore, no calls either incoming or outgoing can be effected.
6. No telegrams or cablegrams emanating from the embassy for transmission outside of the continental United States are dispatched. Such messages are held by the telegraph companies and the FBI is advised of them. Telegrams directed to points within the United States may be dispatched by the embassy through delivery to one of the guards.
7. The funds of the Japanese have been frozen by the Treasury Department.

b7E

copy - ans

3111

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Washington, D. C.

December 11, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER

The attached Press Release was sent me by
Assistant Secretary Long, of the State Department.
Please speak to me about it as soon as possible.

Francis Biddle
Attorney General.

b7E

see encl.

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DEC 13 1941

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FROM

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MEMO FOR E. A. TAMM

3112

"Please get at once & completely & correctly just
what the restrictions are which we have at Jap, German &
Italian Embassies. H."

b7E

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12-1-34

DEC 13 34